CHINESE IMMIGRATION.

RETURN to an Address of the Honourable The House of Commons, dated 19 August 1853;—*for*,

"COPIES or EXTRACTS of DESPATCHES relating to CHINESE IMMIGRANTS recently introduced into the Colonies of *British Guiana* and *Trinidad*."

Colonial Office,
19 August 1853.

FREDERICK PEEL.

(*Mr. Peel.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed*,
20 *August* 1853.

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BRITISH GUIANA.

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* The previous Correspondence on the subject of Chinese Immigration into British Guiana will be found in House of Commons' Paper, No. 624, of 1st August 1851, "British Guiana."

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TRINIDAD.*

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* The previous Correspondence on the subject of Chinese Immigration into Trinidad will be found in the House of Commons' Paper, No. 936, 16th August 1853, "Trinidad."

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COPIES or EXTRACTS of DESPATCHES relating to *Chinese* Immigrants recently introduced into the Colonies of *British Guiana* and *Trinidad.*

BRITISH GUIANA.

— No. 1. —

(No. 124.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Barkly* to the Right Hon. Earl *Grey.*

No. 1.
Governor Barkly to the Right Hon. Earl Grey.
26 August 1851.

Government House, 26 August 1851.
(Received, 24 September 1851.)

My Lord, (Answered, No. 448, 13 February 1852, page 72.)

HAVING laid your Lordship's despatch of 8th ult., No. 361,* on the subject of Chinese immigration, before the Court of Policy, I have now the honour to transmit extract minute of the proceedings of that body, confirming a report from the sub-committee to whom it was referred, by which your Lordship will perceive that it is the desire of the colonists to encourage this species of immigration in every possible way, and that they will readily acquiesce in any appropriation of the funds raised under the loan ordinance, for the charter of a vessel by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners for the purpose.

It is possible that if the favourable accounts given by Dr. Bowring of the disposition to emigrate on the part of the Chinese, are known to parties connected with the West Indies at home, there may be no difficulty in getting them to authorise contracts on their behalf being entered into in China by any agent appointed by the Commissioners to superintend the emigration, or even, that the necessity for any action on the part of the Commissioners may be superseded by such parties making their own arrangements on the faith of the 100 dollars per head bounty, alluded to in the second article of the report, which, as your Lordship is aware, from the proclamation of rates of bounty, forwarded with my despatch of 22d October, No. 150,† is already the legal rate payable in respect to Chinese immigrants.

Should, however, the Commissioners find neither the West India interest nor the owners of the vessels chartered, willing to enter into such contracts as will induce these people to leave their country, I apprehend there could be no difficulty in directing the contracts to be made out in the name of the immigration agent-general of this colony, and on the terms described in the report of the sub-committee of the Court of Policy, as nearly as may be.

There can be no doubt that such contracts, by whomsoever entered into, will prove a mere matter of form upon the arrival of the immigrants here, for they will all embrace the option to be afforded them of cancelling their agreement and claiming the current rate of wages of the colony, an option in fact which, as the law stands, is given to all immigrants, whether expressly stipulated or not.

It is believed here that Amoy would be the best port from which to procure the Chinese, but in all probability before any steps can be adopted in the matter, definite information will have been received from Mr. J. T. White, who, as your Lordship is aware, left Calcutta some months ago on a mission of inquiry into the feasibility and advantages of this introduction of the hard working and intelligent Chinese into the West Indies, where it is hoped they will form a middle class, better capable of standing the climate than the natives of Madeira, more energetic than the East Indian, and less fierce and barbarous than the emigrants from the Kroo coast of Africa.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Henry Barkly.*

Enclosure

* Page 490 of House of Commons' Paper, No. 624, 1st August 1851, "British Guiana."
† Page 196 of - - - - ditto - - - - ditto.

BRITISH GUIANA.

Enclosure in No. 1.

Enclosure in No. 1.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Proceedings of the Honourable the Court of Policy of the Colony of British Guiana, at its Adjourned Assembly, held at the Guiana Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara, Monday 25 August 1851.

[After prayers.]

THE Honourable Mr. Rose laid over Report of Committee on letter of Dr. Bowring to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, relative to Chinese immigration, which on his motion, seconded by the Honourable Mr. Booker, ordered to be adopted, viz.:—

Your Committee have carefully read and considered Dr. Bowring's letter to the Right Honourable Earl Grey, Her Majesty's principal Secretary of State for the Colonies.

It is the opinion of your Committee that every possible means should be adopted to encourage emigration from China.

It is evident from the information contained in Dr. Bowring's communication, that a supply of valuable labour, to an almost unlimited extent, can be procured from China, your Committee would, therefore, respectfully recommend,—

First. That your Excellency will be pleased to invite Earl Grey to direct the necessary measures to be taken by the Land and Emigration Commissioners to send out a vessel immediately; and further, that his Lordship will be pleased to instruct the Land and Emigration Commissioners to consult with the Commissioners of the British Guiana Loan, as to the means most likely to insure success, these gentlemen being all largely interested in the prosperity of British Guiana.

Secondly. That your Excellency will be pleased to issue your proclamation, offering a bounty for effective Chinese immigrants under engagement to labour as agricultural labourers for five years, the sum of 100 dollars, under ordinance No. 23,* of the year 1850.

Thirdly. As it appears that the Chinese labourers require to be guaranteed a certain rate of wages for the period of service, we recommend the emigration agent, at the port of embarkation in China, to be instructed to engage them at wages not exceeding four dollars per month, and the scale of allowance of food as stated in the annexed memorandum; stating at the same time, that if they should prefer to be paid at the same rate for the work they perform, they finding their own provisions, as other labourers in the colony, they would have the option of doing so.

Fourthly. That the emigration agent be authorised to advance a sum not exceeding 10 dollars, to such effective emigrant, before embarkation, to be repaid by instalments in British Guiana.

Scale of allowance of food for Chinese immigrants, being similar to that fixed for African ships.

Biscuit	½ lb.
Rice	½ lb.
Beef, pork, or salt fish	½ lb.

Women to receive the same rations as men.

(True extract.)

J. Gardiner Austin,
Acting Secretary.

— No. 2. —

No. 2. Governor Barkly to the Right Hon. Earl Grey. 31 October 1851.

(No. 151.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Barkly* to the Right Hon. Earl *Grey*.

Government House, 31 October 1851.

My Lord, (Received, 9 December 1851.)

So great was the anxiety of the planters of this colony, after the receipt of Dr. Bowring's Report, to share in the advantages of emigration from China, that an offer was addressed to me by the Hon. George Booker, to despatch forthwith a vessel, at his own risk, to bring Chinese immigrants, under contracts assignable to the colony, on payment of the bounty, upon condition only that he should be allowed to carry back to Madras a portion of the coolies whose term of service had expired, in order in some degree to compensate him for the voyage hence in ballast.

Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co., having already engaged with the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners in London to supply tonnage for the return to India of as many coolies as, judging from the statements of the Immigration Agent-general in the earlier part of the year, I thought it likely would claim a passage this season, I felt myself reluctantly compelled to decline entering into this

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* This Ordinance will be found at page 576 of House of Commons' Paper, No. 624, of 1st August 1851, "British Guiana."

this last condition, and concluded, therefore, that the project would fall to the ground.

Mr. Booker, however, either thinking that as the season was so far advanced for the double voyage contemplated by Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co., accident might interfere to prevent the arrival of their vessels in time, or that the number of coolies claiming return passages would, as the immigration agent had supposed, be larger than my estimate, offered so far to modify his terms as to engage to convey the coolies on board his ship, *free of charge*, in the event of the vessels sent by Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co. falling short of their complement in consequence of such diversion of a portion of their passengers.

Such an offer from so responsible a party appeared to me so free from all danger of loss to the finances of the colony, and so desirable in other respects, as affording an early prospect of trying the important experiment of the introduction of Chinese labour into the West Indies, that I no longer hesitated to close with it; and the "Lord Elgin," the ship tendered for the service, having been approved, and Dr. David Shier, brother and assistant to the Agricultural Chemists, having been engaged as surgeon, I authorised the conclusion of the charter-party, and issued licences for the embarkation of her complement of Madras coolies, and for the subsequent conveyance of Chinese immigrants on her return voyage to this colony.

Copies of these documents I have the honour to transmit enclosed, and I trust they will be found in due form, and that your Lordship will not consider that I assumed too great a responsibility in sanctioning an undertaking likely to prove beneficial to the colony at large, though holding out, I am afraid, small prospect of profit to the enterprising individual who has thus ventured to pioneer the way. Enclosures 1, 2, and 3.

I will only add at present, that the "Lord Elgin" sailed hence on the * inst. with 146 coolies on board, as more particularly set forth in the accompanying abstract from the Immigration Agent-general. * So in copy. Enclosure 4.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Henry Barkly.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 2.

Sir, 2 September 1851.

With reference to the Report adopted by the Court of Policy on the 25th instant, in favour of taking advantage of the opportunity pointed out in Dr. Bowring's despatch to Earl Grey, for securing emigrants from China. Encl. 1, in No. 2.

I beg leave to state, for the information of his Excellency, that I am ready and willing to despatch a vessel, the "Lord Elgin," 351 tons, for the purpose of making a commencement, at as early a period as possible, of importing labourers from that part of the world, on the following conditions:—

Firstly. That the said vessel must be provided with as many coolie passengers, destined for Madras, whose time of service in this colony has expired, and whose united passage-money would pay the vessel's ordinary expenses from Demerara to the said port, not exceeding 134 in number.

Secondly. On the debarkation of the coolies at Madras, the vessel would then proceed to some ports in the China seas, for the purpose of conveying to this colony as many Chinese labourers as by law she is entitled to carry, subject to the conditions of the bounty to be paid by the colony for the introduction of labourers from China.

Thirdly. That in the event of it being necessary to enter into contracts with the labourers in question, I agree to advance them a reasonable amount of money, and enter into contracts for a certain number of years service, such contracts to be transferred to the colony on receiving the amount of bounty money I am by law entitled to.

Fourthly. That in the event of the two ships expected to be sent out by Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co., being deprived of a full complement of coolie passengers, in consequence of my vessel having carried away a part of those desirous of returning, such complement, however, not to exceed 600, as originally estimated,

I agree to waive all claim to the passage-money of those so carried away, to whatever extent the number left for Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co.'s ships may fall short, in order to save the colony from any loss in consequence.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Geo. Cooker.*

To the Honourable J. C. Austin,
Acting Government Secretary.

BRITISH GUIANA.

Enclosure 2, in No. 2.

CHARTER PARTY.

Encl. 2, in No. 2. IT is mutually covenanted, concluded, and agreed upon, this 6th day of October, in the year of our Lord 1851, by and between *William Humphrys*, Immigration Agent-general for, and on behalf of the government of British Guiana, of the one part, and *George Booker*, owner of the ship or vessel called the "Lord Elgin," of the burthen of 351 tons, registered tonnage, now riding in the river Demerara, of the other part, in the manner following, that is to say, the said William Humphrys for, and on behalf of the government of British Guiana, has agreed to place on board the said ship or vessel "Lord Elgin," bound for and proceeding to Madras, a certain number of return emigrants, natives of India, not to exceed in number 134, and the said George Booker hereby agrees to receive on board the said ship or vessel, all such return emigrants not to exceed in number 134 adults, and promises that the whole of the between decks of the said vessel shall be appropriated and given up to the sole and entire use of the said return emigrants and their children; likewise the said George Booker covenants, promises, and agrees that the said ship or vessel be strong, firm, tight, staunch, and substantial, both above water and beneath; and shall and will sail, wind and weather permitting, immediately after receiving so many return emigrants, not exceeding 134 with their children, as by the said William Humphrys shall be sent on board the said ship or vessel bound for Madras, equipped, fitted, furnished and provided with masts, sails, sail yards, anchors, ropes, cords, tackle apparel, boats, and also with furniture, and all other materials and things necessary, proper, convenient, and fitting for her intended service, and also to be managed in proportion to her tonnage, with a crew fit and capable to sail her; and the said ship or vessel shall, in like manner, be furnished with coppers or furnaces for the boiling and dressing of provisions for such number of adult persons as shall be ordered and directed by the said William Humphrys to be received on board; and the said George Booker further covenants, promises, and agrees to supply such return emigrants during the passage from the port of Demerara to Madras, and for forty-eight hours after the arrival there, with the articles specified in the list or schedule hereunto annexed; and the said George Booker shall provide a properly qualified surgeon to proceed with the vessel and to be approved by the said Immigration Agent-general, for the purpose of taking medical charge of the said return emigrants during the voyage, in consideration of which covenants, conditions, and agreements hereby to be performed by the said George Booker, the said William Humphrys does covenant and promise for, and on behalf of the Government of British Guiana, that the said George Booker, his executors, administrators or assigns, shall be allowed and paid the sum of 10*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.*, for each adult return emigrant as shall be sent as aforesaid, on board the said ship or vessel, and landed alive in Madras, such payment, however, subject to certain conditions, as contained in the 4th section of a communication addressed by the said George Booker to the Government Secretary of British Guiana, bearing date 2d of September 1851, as per copy hereunto attached; and it is hereby further covenanted and agreed, by and between the parties hereto, that all return emigrants above the age of 10 years, shall be deemed and paid for as adults; that all children above the age of one year, and below the age of 10 years, shall be paid for at the rate of 5*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.* each, and all children under the age of one year, shall be admitted without any charge whatsoever, which freight or payment shall be made in silver dollars, at 4*s.* 2*d.*, or bills of exchange drawn upon the Land and Emigration Commissioners, ten days after they shall have been deposited with the Immigration Agent-general.

1st. A schedule signed by the protector of emigrants or other officer thereunto duly authorised at Madras, specifying the number of persons, males, females, children, and infants respectively, landed alive, and that he is satisfied that the terms of this charter party have been fully and fairly complied with.

2d. A certificate signed by the surgeon, declaring that the emigrants were treated according to agreement during the voyage, and specifying the names and ages of all who have died or left the ship during the voyage, and if none have so died or left the ship, a declaration to that effect.

3d. An account signed by the party of the second part, stating the particulars of the claim, such payment however, subject to the conditions hereinbefore stated.

And the said George Booker further agrees that the return emigrants shall be treated with kindness by the master and all officers and the crew of the said ship, and that the master shall, on all occasions, attend when practicable to any suggestions of the surgeon calculated to promote the health, comfort, or well-being of the emigrants; and further, that the said return emigrants shall, on no occasion, be called on to do any manner of work on board the vessel, other than cleaning their own berths between decks, or receiving at the hatchways in the between decks, fresh water, and provisions, and fuel, and that on the occasions of cleaning their berths, they shall on no account be placed to draw water from the sea on the gunwale, in the chains, or in any situation which shall endanger their falling overboard.

That the said Immigration Agent-general shall have every facility for the inspection of the ship and of all her fitments, provisions, water, and stores, but that his approval thereof shall not in any degree lessen the responsibility of the said ship, or the said party hereto of the second part.

That

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That after the embarkation of the emigrants, and upon receiving sailing orders from the Immigration Agent-general, the said ship shall proceed on her voyage without delay for any other purposes, and shall not touch at any intermediate port except from urgent necessity.

In witness whereof, the said parties hereto, of the first and second parts respectively, have hereunto set their hands respectively, the day and year above written.

Signed by the said *William Humphrys*, I. A. G., as aforesaid, and *George Booker*.

In the presence of *Josias Booker*, Junr., *John M'Connell*.

Scale of Provisions to be supplied to Indian Immigrants.

Rice	1½ lbs.	Tobacco	½ oz.	Tamarind	2 oz.
Peas	4 oz.	Pepper	2 dr.	Firewood	2 lbs.
Butter or lard	1 „	Black pepper	1½ „	Salt or pickled fish	2 oz.
Turmeric	1 „	Mustard seed	½ „	Water	1 gal.
Onions or garlic	1 dr.	Coriander seed	2 „		

Dry Provisions for bad weather when the usual Provisions cannot be cooked.

Biscuits, 2 lbs.; Salt fish, 2 oz.; Sugar, 2 oz.

List of Medicines and Medical Comforts. Supply for any number of Emigrants from 50 to 100. The quantities to be increased for any additional number beyond 100, at the rate of half these quantities per 100.

	lbs.	oz.
Acacia gum	–	6
Acetate of lead	–	3
Adhesive plaster	1	4
Alumen	–	6
Antimonial power	–	2
Aromatic spirit of ammonia	–	8
Blistering ointment	1	8
Blue pill	–	4
Carbonate of ammonia	–	3
Camphor	–	6
Catechu	–	2
Cerate (simple)	1	8
Chloride of lime	4	8
Calomel	–	6
Castor oil	4	8
Compound tincture of camphor	–	8
Dover's powder	–	4
Epsom salts	2	–
Extract of colocynth	–	3
Ginger powder	–	6
Jalap ditto	–	4
Ipecacuan ditto	–	3
Nitrate of silver	–	½
Opium	–	3
Oil of peppermint	–	½
Peruvian balsam	–	6
Quinine	–	¾
Red precipitate	–	1
Rhubarb powder	–	3
Spirit of nitrous ether	–	10
Sulphuric ether	–	6
Sulphate of zinc	–	3
Ditto of copper	–	3
Sulphur	2	–
Senna leaves	1	–
Tartrate of antimony	–	¾
Tincture of opium	1	8

Country Medicines, &c.		
Splints, common, long	1 set of 3 pairs each	
Ditto – ditto, short	1 ditto	
Lint	6	oz.
Leather skins, white	2	No.
Cloth for bandages and plasters	10	yards
Cumblies for fomentation, No.	3	
Cocoa nut oil for external application	2	bottles
Rum for external application	20	„
Soap for ditto	5	lbs.
Rice flour for poultices	30	„
Mustard, powdered	2	bottles
Salt, common	2	lbs.
Leeches	100	number

Utensils.		
Tow, fine	1½	lbs.
Syringes, clyster, pewter pint	1	No.
Syringes, penis ditto	2	„
Tourniquiet field	2	„
Measure glass, 1 oz.	1	„
Mortars and pestles, Wedgwood	1	No.
Scales and weights, small, box	1	
Phials, sorted	6	No.
Pill boxes	½	papers
Bolus knife	1	No.
Bed bans	2	„
Candles, wax	6	„
Lanterns, small, or hand lamps	1	No.
Saucepan	2	„

Medical Comforts.		
Arrow root	25	lbs.
Brandy	12	bottles
Sago	25	lbs.
Spice	box 4 oz.	
Sugar	100	lbs.
Lime juice	100	pints
Vinegar	3	gal.
Marine soap	half cwt.	

Enclosure 3, in No. 2.

Encl. 3, in No. 2.

Whereas the Immigration Agent-general at the port of Demerara has certified to me, under the regulations contained in an Act of the Government of this colony, No. 7 of 1843, providing regulations to encourage immigration to British Guiana, in which it is provided, that after residence of five years persons so immigrating from India are provided with a free return passage,

That the ship "Lord Elgin," burthen about 351 tons, Alexander M'Clelland, master, belonging to the Honourable George Booker, is capable of accommodating 134 adult persons: and whereas the aforesaid Immigration Agent-general having further certified that the said master has conformed to the several provisions to the Imperial Passengers' Act and local Acts of the colony:

I hereby permit Alexander M'Clelland, master of the "Lord Elgin," to receive on board his ship, and accommodate with a passage to Madras, not more than 134 natives of India as returning immigrant labourers, subject to the provisions of the aforesaid Acts.

By Command.

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Enclosure 4, in No. 2.

Encl. 4, in No. 2.

ABSTRACT of *Madras* Coolies embarked on board the Ship "Lord Elgin," which took her departure from the Port of *Demerara* bound for *Madras* on the 6th October 1851.

	Adults.		Children between One and Ten Years.		Children under One Year.		TOTAL.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Adult male Coolies - - - -	96	–	–	–	–	–	96
Adult female Coolies - - - -	–	33	–	–	–	–	33
Boys from one to ten years - - -	–	–	6	–	–	–	6
Girls from one to ten years - - -	–	–	–	11	–	–	11
Infant under one year - - - -	–	–	–	–	–	–	—
	96	33	6	11	–	–	146

I certify that the above number of 146 persons, making 137½ adults, have embarked on board the ship "Lord Elgin."

6 October 1851. *Wm. Humphrys*, I. A. G.

Enclosure 5 in No. 2.

Encl. 5, in No. 2.

Description of the barque or vessel "Lord Elgin," British plantation built, having one and a break decks and three masts, her length from the inner part of the main stern to the fore part of the stern post aloft, $104\frac{1}{10}$ feet, her breadth in midship, $23\frac{3}{10}$ feet, her depth in hold at midship, $16\frac{9}{10}$ feet, barque-rigged, with a standing bowsprit, square sterne, carvel built, no galleries, man bust head, admeasuring $351\frac{350}{3500}$ tons, the frame-work and planking of wood, a sailing vessel.

By his Excellency *Henry Barkly*, Esq., Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Colony of British Guiana, Vice-Admiral and Ordinary of the same, &c. &c.

To all to whom these presents shall come, greeting:

The Honourable George Booker, of the city of Georgetown, in the said colony, having applied for my license to enable him to convey Indian emigrants to Madras, and to import emigrants on colonial bounties from the Chinese empire to British Guiana, in his barque or vessel "Lord Elgin," more fully described in the margin hereof,

These are hereby to certify, that I do hereby license and authorise the said Honourable George Booker to employ his said barque or vessel "Lord Elgin" in the said service.

And I do hereby further declare that this license is to remain in force one voyage only, for the said barque or vessel "Lord Elgin," from China to British Guiana, as aforesaid.

Given under my hand and seal at the Guiana Public Buildings, in Georgetown, Demerara, this 2d day of October 1851.

By command of his Excellency.

— No. 3. —

(No. 192.)

No. 3. Governor Barkly to the Right Hon. Earl Grey. 31 October 1851.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Barkly* to the Right Hon. Earl *Grey*.

Government House, 31 October 1851.

My Lord, (Received, 9 December 1851.)

THE favourable accounts given of the disposition of the Chinese to emigrate, by Her Majesty's consul at Canton, as transmitted in your Lordship's despatch of 8th July, No. 361,* confirmed as they were by the Reports from Mr. James T. White,

* Page 490 of House of Commons' Paper, No. 624, 1st August 1851, "British Guiana."

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White, who had proceeded from Calcutta to China to make inquiries on the subject, created a very strong feeling in this colony in favour of further efforts being made to procure labour from that quarter, than those which the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners had already been requested to set on foot by the resolutions of the Court of Policy, forwarded in my despatch of * 26th August, No. 124; and the result has been the unanimous adoption by that body of the further resolution which I have now the honour to enclose, in favour of appropriating no less a sum than fifty thousand pounds of the parliamentary guaranteed loan, to furthering the introduction of labourers from China.

* Page 1.

Enclosure 1.

The footing on which this immigration is to be conducted is left entirely to Her Majesty's Government; but I believe the general opinion is, that the most effectual plan of procuring emigrants would be that suggested by Mr. White—copies of whose communications are sent herewith—of arranging with some of the great mercantile establishments in China (which might easily be done through their correspondents in Great Britain) to despatch a certain number of immigrant vessels annually to this port, at the rate of so much for each passenger, in full satisfaction of all expenses.

The Reports from Mr. White here referred to will be found at page 72 et seq.

The only drawback to Chinese immigration appears to be that which has so materially impeded the beneficial development of the experiment of introducing the natives of India into this colony—the difficulty of procuring female emigrants—a difficulty which seems almost more insuperable in the case of China, from the practice of female infanticide, and from the peculiar custom of crippling the feet of their women, so as to unfit them not merely for agricultural labour but for locomotion.

It seems probable indeed that if a bonus of some 20 dollars, payable in advance, were offered for married couples willing to emigrate, many of the men would procure wives by making the requisite preliminary presents to their parents, in accordance with the custom of the country.

Unless some such scheme as this be sanctioned, I much fear hat immigration from China to the West Indies cannot be carried on safely and advantageously beyond a limited extent, for to bring Chinamen so great a distance, except as permanent settlers, would be too expensive, and there is no class of the population here with which they are likely to form matrimonial alliances in the event of their being desirous of establishing themselves in the country.

Mr. White, however, treats so fully of all these matters that I need only refer your Lordship to his remarks respecting them, which prove, I think, that if an agent is required for these colonies in China, he is admirably adapted for the post.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Henry Barkly.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 3.

Encl. 1, in No. 3.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Proceedings of the Honourable the Court of Policy of the Colony of *British Guiana*, at its adjourned Assembly held at the Guiana Public Buildings, *Georgetown, Demerara*, Tuesday, 14 October 1851.

[After Prayers.]

On the motion of the Honourable Mr. Rose, seconded by the Honourable Mr. Quayle, it was resolved,—

1st. That it is the opinion of this Court that the sum of 50,000 *l.* sterling, a part of the Parliamentary loan of 250,000 *l.*, should be applied to the introduction of Chinese immigrants.

2d. That this Court requests his Excellency the Governor will be pleased to take the necessary steps for obtaining the sanction of Her Majesty's Government for the introduction of Chinese immigrants into this colony.

(True extract.)

(signed) *J. Gardiner Austin,*
Ac. Secretary.

Encls. 2, 3, and 4, in No. 3.

Enclosures 2, 3, and 4, in No. 3,

Consisting of Mr. White's Reports, dated 21st June, and 19th and 23d July 1851, will be found at page 72, 78 and 84 of this Paper.

— No. 4. —

No. 4. Governor Barkly to the Right Hon. Sir J. S. Pakington, Bart. 2 October 1852.

(No. 156.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Barkly* to the Right Honourable Sir *John S. Pakington*, Bart.

Government House, 2 October 1852.

(Received, 3 November 1852.)

Sir, (Answered, No. 7, 26 January 1853, page 95.)

* Page 90.

UPON learning from your despatch of 13 March (No. 6*) that as soon as Mr. White arrived from Calcutta, arrangements were in contemplation by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, which would probably lead to his going back to China to superintend the transmission of immigrants thence to this colony, I thought it better to suggest to the Court of Policy that immediate notice should be given to the public that the bounty of 100 dollars, offered in my proclamation of 21st April last, for the introduction of such immigrants, would be withdrawn, as a considerable period must necessarily elapse before shipowners and others, intending to take advantage of that proclamation, would become aware that a different system was to be adopted. The Court, however, deemed it expedient to await more precise information on the subject before authorising any change, and it was not, therefore, until I heard that Mr. White had actually sailed for China, on the 20th August, that I again called attention to the point, but I still found a great unwillingness on the part of Members to put a stop to "private enterprise," and my recommendation, after much discussion, only led to a resolution, that the bounty on immigrants from China, arriving in vessels which cleared from any port in the Chinese seas subsequently to the 31st March next, should be reduced to 80 dollars.

Copy of my proclamation to this effect I have the honour to enclose.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Henry Barkly.*

Enclosure in No. 4.

Enclosure in No. 4.

British Guiana. [L. S.] Henry Barkly.

PROCLAMATION by his Excellency *Henry Barkly*, Esq., Governor and Commander-in-chief in and over the Colony of British Guiana, Vice-Admiral and Ordinary of the same, &c., &c., &c.

WHEREAS by my Proclamation, dated the 21st day of April 1852, it was declared and made known that the sum of One Hundred Dollars should be the Bounty, that is to say, the Rate of Passage-money and Maintenance to be allowed for Immigrants from China, or Chinese introduced from any Port east of Point de Galle, in Ceylon, under the provisions of Ordinance No. 22, of the year 1851,† intituled "An Ordinance for the Encouragement of the Introduction into this Colony of Labourers in general:"

† *See* Appendix, p. 169.

And whereas it hath been resolved by the Court of Policy that such Rate of Bounty ought to be Reduced after due notice given to that effect:

Now I, Henry Barkly, Governor of the Colony of British Guiana, in virtue of the power and authority in me vested by Ordinance No. 22, anno 1851,‡ intitutled "An Ordinance for the Encouragement of the Introduction into this Colony of Labourers in general," and with the advice and consent of the Court of Policy, do hereby Proclaim and Declare, that in respect to such Immigrants as aforesaid, who may be imported into this Colony on board any vessel which shall clear for this Colony from any Port subsequently to the Thirty-first day of March 1853, the Bounty, payable as aforesaid, shall be Eighty Dollars, instead of One Hundred Dollars.

‡ *See* Appendix, p. 169.

Given under my Hand and Seal of Office, at the Guiana Public Buildings in Georgetown, Demerara, this Twenty-fifth day of September, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty-two, and in the Sixteenth Year of Her Majesty's Reign.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

By his Excellency's Command,

William Walker, Gov. Sec.

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— No. 5. —

(No. 8.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Barkly* to the Right Honourable Sir *John S. Pakington*, Bart.

No. 5.
Governor Barkly to the Right Hon. Sir J. S. Pakington, Bart.
24 January 1853.

Government House, 24 January 1853.

Sir, (Received, 9 March 1853.)

I HAVE the honour to state that the ship "Glentanner," belonging to Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co., arrived here on the 12th inst., with 262 adult males, being the first Chinese immigrants brought to this colony; and that the "Lord Elgin" followed on the 17th, with 85 more.

2. I considered it my duty to visit both vessels immediately on arrival, as independently of the curiosity which I felt to see these samples of a race whose propensity for colonization seems destined to exercise so important an influence both in Asia and America, I was anxious to judge for myself of the arrangements that had been made for their accommodation during the long voyage they had undergone, and the causes of the terrible mortality which was reported in both instances to have occurred.

3. On this latter point the reports which I have now the honour to transmit relative to the "Glentanner," will throw much light; that, at least, from the health officer is worthy of every attention. The reports as to the "Lord Elgin" have not yet been sent in, and will not be so for some time, as I shall in all probability be obliged to order a formal investigation into the circumstances connected with her voyage, which has been a most disastrous one to all concerned.

Enclosures 1 & 2.

4. The captains of both vessels account, in part, for the length and difficulty of their voyages, by stating that they started so early in the season, the "Lord Elgin" at the beginning of August, and the "Glentanner" at the beginning of September, as to encounter the full force of the monsoon; and that the proper period for leaving Amoy, is between the end of October and the beginning of March.

5. I entirely agree with Dr. Manget, however, that neither ship is suited for the purpose, and that the great distance from China to this part of the world, renders it absolutely essential, for the sake of humanity, that the immigration should henceforth be conducted in ships of large size, possessing superior passenger accommodation, their spar-deck especially kept quite clear, so as to permit of exercise being taken by the majority of the immigrants at one and the same time; and that the height under the beams of the 'tween decks should be at least six feet, and the port holes in the sides much larger than those required by the ordinary regulations for passenger vessels.

6. I consider too that the captains of such ships should be forbidden to carry cargo of a perishable nature, in the strictest interpretation of the phrase, and that it should be compulsory on them to touch at some port to be fixed in the Eastern Archipelago, as well as at the Cape of Good Hope, and to allow their passengers to land for a certain time, taking in a certain quantity of fresh meat and vegetables at both places.

7. All this, no doubt, would materially enhance the shipowner's expenses, and I am quite aware that in the first instance, at any rate, it would tend to prejudice Chinese immigration to the British West Indies, in comparison with that to Cuba, which is now permitted to be carried on by British mercantile firms in British vessels, exempt even from the ordinary obligations of the Imperial Passengers' Act, but I am confident, nevertheless, that humanity will be found the best policy in the long run, and that let ships for Cuba be stowed with immigrants as closely as the slavers from Africa to that island now are, a larger number will hardly be landed alive and paid for, than would be landed in a British colony under such restrictions as experience may show to be necessary for the preservation of health on the voyage. If the number should prove larger, the planters of Cuba will soon find to their cost, that they are getting immigrants with shattered constitutions, who will not live long enough to repay the cost of their introduction.

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8. I am decidedly of opinion, therefore, that indiscriminate immigration upon bounty to this colony ought to cease altogether with the present season, and that Mr. White, whose appointment as emigration agent in China, you communicated to me in your despatch of 1st November, No. 76,* should be intrusted with the selection of proper ships on the most advantageous terms he can arrange, or with the loading of those that may be sent out to him by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners; always taking care that the entire expense per caput does not exceed the sum of 100 dollars, which was fixed by the Court of Policy as the maximum rate they were willing to pay.

* Page 91.

9. It is not yet in my power to reply to the question raised by the Commissioners, as to the amount which is to be devoted to this species of immigration next season, because it is a point to be settled by the Combined Court at its approaching session, but I think there will be enough money left of the sum originally appropriated from the guaranteed loan, to authorise the charter of at least three ships to make a commencement.

10. It will be necessary to give due notice that in future all contracts entered into with Chinese, introduced at the public expense, will be null and void on arrival here; for unless the system of advances, now made by the captains previous to embarkation on the security of such contracts, which contain a clause binding the immigrant to repayment, be put an end to at once, it will lead to abuses, no check whatever existing upon the valuation set upon the clothing, &c., delivered to the man, and very little security that he understands how much he has really received, a great part going, I am informed, as was the case in the early Cooly emigration, to the collecting sub-agents, who are, in fact, lodging-house keepers little better than the crimps of seaport towns at home.

Enclosure 3.

11. It will be seen, moreover, from the contracts, which I forward herewith, that the amount advanced in the case of the "Glentanner" was nearly twice as large as in that of the "Lord Elgin," and I am apprehensive that this difference may hereafter create dissatisfaction among the Chinese by different ships when they come to compare notes.

12. If, indeed, as seems to have been anticipated by Messrs. Hyde, Hodge, & Co., the colony had at once undertaken to repay the shipowner the whole of these advances, in addition to the bounty of 100 dollars, the matter would have been simple enough, but as such a course would have been equivalent to an indefinite increase of expenditure, I declined to adopt it or even to recommend to the Court of Policy the modified proposition of their agent, that the employer to whom the indentures might be transferred by my order should be required to render himself personally responsible for the repayment, though I offered every legitimate assistance for the collection of the instalments, through the immigration office, as they fell due. The question was at last settled by a resolution of the Court, binding the employer to deduct the amount out of any wages falling due to the immigrant whilst in his service, and to pay it over to the Immigration Agent General for account of the shipowner, or to explain to the satisfaction of the stipendiary magistrate of the district why he failed to do so.

13. I observe in the instructions to Mr. White, that he is authorised to go as far as to offer five dollars per month, with food and lodging, or seven dollars without such allowance; but as both the cargoes that have arrived were engaged at four dollars or six dollars only, I hope he will not find it necessary to exceed the latter rates, as it may create discontent if he does so. There can be little doubt, however, that in a few months time these contracts will be terminated with mutual consent, as the Chinese are not likely to rest satisfied with earning six dollars where by steady industry they can make twice as much, and the planters will be too happy to let them work on their own account for whatever they can realise.

14. There are many other reasons why the selection of immigrants should in future be left solely to the agent of the colony; among which I may mention the necessity of sending a sufficient number of competent interpreters in every ship; of excluding persons irreclaimably addicted to opium-eating, and above all, of procuring a due proportion of women.

15. The

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15. The first point is one that will occasion much embarrassment, when I come to locate the Chinese likely to arrive here this season upon the different plantations throughout the colony, for judging from present experience, it is likely to be altogether neglected.

The "Glentanner" brought one man only who, by residing at Sydney, had acquired a limited knowledge of the English language; another had, in the same way, picked up a few words of French in the Mauritius, which, eked out with a little Malay, enabled me to assign him as interpreter for a party placed on the estate of a Dutch gentleman, who, from long residence in the east, had learnt the latter language. On board the "Lord Elgin" there was not a single individual acquainted with any other tongue than his native one, except the surgeon in charge, who had studied Chinese so far as to become acquainted with the symptoms as described by his patients. This neglect to bring interpreters arose from the impression prevalent in the China seas, that the loiterers about the English settlements are the most depraved and piratical of the population, and that the massacre of the captain and crew of the "Robert Bowen," on her way to California, was planned by men of this class before the ship left Hong Kong. There can be no doubt this massacre added to other stories of the kind must have produced a good deal of alarm, for both in the "Glentanner" and "Lord Elgin" the fore deck was separated by a strong barricade from the poop; guns on the latter, pointed so as to sweep it, and armed sentries posted day and night at the wicket through which alone communication took place.

16. If trustworthy interpreters can possibly be engaged, and I am told that lads from the Chinese College at Singapore would answer admirably, one should be shipped for every 60 or 70 immigrants, as, generally speaking, a larger number cannot be properly accommodated on the plantation, and dangerous consequences might ensue were there no medium of communication between the manager and so large a body of people.

17. As regards opium-eating, I understand that the habitual votary of this noxious drug is easily discernible by his complexion, and there can be no question, I should think, that all such should be carefully excluded from the ships, as they must prove comparatively useless as labourers, and, though Dr. Manget does not allude to the point, it might almost be inferred that a part of the mortality in the "Glentanner" and "Lord Elgin" arose from the exhaustion of the supply of this wonted stimulus, as few of those who landed alive are, as far as I can learn, addicted to opium, whilst it is reported that many of those who died were so. Sydney, the English interpreter, forms an exception to the former rule, for it actually proved necessary the other day, in investigating some complaints at the Immigration Depôt, to send to a chemist's for opium, and administer a pill before his faculties could be roused from lethargy.

18. Lastly, as respects the total absence of women, I know that the captains of immigrant vessels so much prefer carrying men only, for the sake of escaping the quarrels and disorder which generally occur where the sexes are mixed together on board, that I am by no means surprised that none were brought when it was optional to come without them.

Were it impracticable to rectify this omission it would constitute but too valid an objection to the continuance of Chinese immigration on an extensive scale to a country like British Guiana, where at the date of last census the males were to the females as 67 to 60; but I am sanguine, from the tenor of the letters written by Mr. White during his preliminary visit, no less than from other accounts, that this will not prove the case, and that, as agent for the colonies, he will be able, with a little pre-arrangement, to procure at least as large a proportion of women as is now done in the case of the coolies, which, though insufficient to place them on the footing of an increasing population, would be ample to obviate objections upon moral grounds.

19. Having gone at so much length into a consideration of the footing on which, so far as I can yet judge, Chinese immigration should be placed, I will only add a few remarks on the immigrants whose arrival I have announced, reserving any more lengthened report on their conduct, physical capability, and

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general adaptation to the colony, until I have had fuller opportunity of forming my opinions.

20. To facilitate my so doing, no less than to have them under hand in case of necessity, I determined for some weeks beforehand to locate the first arrivals on estates situated a few miles only from Georgetown, but on the further side of the Demerara river, so as to save them from the annoyance of gaping crowds, and the subsequent temptation to drunkenness and dissipation. They were much delighted with the cottages prepared for them, some indeed stating through the interpreter that they had never lived in a house before, and though not much skilled in the cultivation of the sugar cane, which they seem to know rather as a garden plant, turned out with so much alacrity to work that they had to be restrained in the eagerness to earn wages, many of them being still too much affected by the dropsical symptoms, produced by long confinement and unusual diet on shipboard, to be fit for continuous exertion.

21. The planters are, under all circumstances, highly pleased with them, and unsatisfactorily as the experiment has begun, so far as the passage hither is concerned, I think I am justified in predicting that once placed here under judicious arrangements, they will become the most valuable class of labourers ever yet introduced into British Guiana.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Henry Barkly.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 5.

Encl. 1, in No. 5.

THE mortality on board the "Glentanner" is very great, and would have been much greater had the ship not had such a short passage. Twelve immigrants have been sent to the hospital, the half of whom will die; and two have died on board since.

There can be no doubt that the length of the voyage from China to this colony is the principal cause of this mortality. The want of space for proper exercise, added to the privation of animal food for several months, must tell awfully upon these immigrants.

The "Glentanner" is a fine vessel, and seems to have been kept very clean. But she is an unfit vessel for immigrants from China. She is badly ventilated, and there is too little room on deck for the number she carried. The few small apertures on each side of the vessel cannot be fairly considered as port-holes; they never can give proper ventilation.

I have received from the surgeon no journal nor hospital reports, and can therefore say very little as to other causes which might have been acting during the voyage. Many of the people on board are still suffering from anasarca, to a very limited extent it is true; but this state is due, I am sure, to the causes above mentioned; and I am persuaded that in a few days on shore, and with proper food, they will quickly recover.

If immigration from China is to be continued, I respectfully submit that no vessel under a thousand tons ought to be allowed to bring immigrants to this colony; making it also compulsory for these vessels to touch twice during the voyage at ports where they would remain at least ten days, and during which the people should be well supplied with fresh provisions. These vessels ought to have port-holes at least two feet and a half square, and port-holes at the stern, with at least six and a half feet between decks; in one word, vessels of the description of the "Ellenborough." Smaller vessels cannot be properly ventilated, and are unfit for bringing immigrants from China.

igned) *E. A. Manget*, M. D.,
Act. Health Officer.

Enclosure 2, in No. 5.

BRITISH GUIANA.

Immigration Agent General's Office,
22 January 1853.

Sir,

Encl. 2, in No. 5.

I HAVE the honour to report the arrival on the 12th inst. of the ship "Glentanner," 131 days from Amoy, having touched at Batavia and Algoa Bay, having on board 262 Chinese; 43 deaths had occurred on the voyage. Immediately on the arrival of the ship 12 were sent to the hospital, and a few days after four more.

The people remaining on board were distributed on the 15th inst., but on the morning of the distribution two of the people died on board, one from syncope the other from disease of the heart, as reported by the surgeon of the ship. The remainder were distributed from the ship in perfect health.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Wm. Humphrys,*
I. A. G.

The Honourable Wm. Walker,
Govt. Sec.

Enclosure 3 in No. 5.

Meaning in Chinese of Annexed Contract.

立約字人廈門　姓　名　今因與英国屬国慈而武甲嗹馬呀捞立約愿往彼国做工限至五年為滿俟船到国之日莫起或耕種或牧牛羊或做作什工俱各聽從東家令使喚不敢違逆其日食及醫生調治病症以及住屋均各給與工人逐月工資全英国之人一体另和醫生良每年三元厝稅良六元如和明白仍旧每月給工資良　元今先向德記行借出番良六元言約貳逐月辛金扣起一元如和明白以外仍照每月辛金給足此乃甘愿画和歌往做工並非抑勒等情之事今欵有憑合立約字一帋為炤

咸豐弐年六月　日立約字人

This Indenture having been assigned to me as

I engage to deduct the sum of

of Plantation

Dollars each from such amount of wages

Dollars, in monthly instalments of

may earn in my service and to pay the amount monthly

as

to the Immigration Agent General, to be by him paid over to the Agent of Messrs. Geo. Booker,

or of his inability

and in the event of the death of

to earn wages, I hereby engage to establish the same to the satisfaction of the Stipendiary Magistrate.

Geo. Booker
by his Attorney

No 82.

This Indenture made the twenty second day of July in the Year of Our Lord One thousand Eight hundred and fifty two between Goh tchu a Chinese Labourer, at present residing at Amoy, of the one part and George Booker of the Colony of British Guiana, of the other part—

Witnesseth—

That in consideration of the covenants, promises, and agreements on the part and behalf of the said George Booker, hereinafter contained, he the said Goh-tchu has placed and bound, and by these presents doth place and bind himself the said Goh-tchu to and with the said George Booker for the term of five years, to be computed from the day of arrival of the said Goh-tchu in British Guiana; and doth hereby, to and with the said George Booker covenant, promise and declare that he the said Goh-tchu as a Labourer, shall and will, during all and every part of the said term of five years, truly and faithfully serve the said George Booker on any plantation in British Guiana, according to the Rules, Regulations and Laws now or hereafter to be in force of and concerning Chinese Labourers in that colony; and the said George Booker doth hereby covenant, promise and agree to and with the said Goh-tchu that he the said George Booker shall and will, during the said term of five years, or the continuance of these presents, find and provide the said Goh-tchu with suitable and sufficient food, lodging and medical attendance, according to the Laws in such case made and provided, and according to all other Laws and Ordinances which may hereafter be made, touching and concerning Chinese Labourers in that Colony; and also shall and will allow and pay to the said Goh tchu as such Labourer aforesaid, the same rate of wages as is paid to the Labourers not under a written agreement working on Plantations in British Guiana according to the quantity of work performed, and will pay such wages on the last day of each month after deducting at the rate of Three Dollars per annum for medical attendance, and at the rate of Six Dollars per annum for lodging, and the said George Booker engages that after making the above deductions the monthly wages payable to the said Goh-tchu shall not be less than four dollars; and the said Goh-tchu having received at Amoy from the Agent for the said George Booker the sum of Six Dollars advance engages to repay the same by a monthly deduction from his wages of One dollar until the said sum be repaid.

The preceding agreement was signed by the abovenamed parties in our presence on the day & year above written, voluntarily, the same being, as far as we are able to judge, fully understood by them respectively.

Witnesses
Richd Smith
John R. Purvis.

Geo Booker by his attorney
A. M'Cellan

吳 注

Enclosure 4, in No. 5.

(No. 66.)

Encl. 4, in No. 5.

I, SIN HOON, native of the village of Chuanchen, in the province of Fokien in China, of the age of 20 years, have agreed to embark in the vessel "Glentanner," with the object of proceeding to the colony of British Guiana, obliging myself from and after my arrival to dedicate myself there to the orders of the honourable the Immigration Agent of that colony, to whatever class of labour I may be destined, whether in plantations or other estates, during the customary hours of work in that colony, or even at other than plantation labour, as may be most convenient to the honourable the Immigration Agent, or whoever may become the holder of this engagement, and to perform said work for two dollars of salary monthly, maintenance of eight ounces of beef, one and a half pounds of other alimentary food daily, medical assistance and medicines, two suits of clothes, one blanket and one flannel shirt annually; it being agreed that in case of sickness, should it exceed 15 days, my salary will be suspended until I return to work, continuing in the meanwhile to receive medicines and medical attendance; or in place of all the foregoing, that I shall receive four dollars per month, and find myself in all provisions and other necessaries, fulfilling these obligations for the space of five years continuous, which are fixed for the term of this engagement, during which it shall not be permitted me to leave the colony, nor deny my services to the persons to whom this engagement may be transferred; at the end of that period I shall be at liberty to act as may seem to me best. My passage and maintenance on board of said vessel shall be on account of Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co., from whom I confess having received by Messrs. Tait & Co. the sum of nine and a half dollars in silver for my outfit for said voyage, and also two suits of new clothes with which to land, amounting to two dollars, on condition that both sums (11½ dollars) I shall pay in Demerara to the order of Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co. by one dollar monthly, which shall be deducted from my salary by the honourable the Immigration Agent, or the persons to whom this engagement may be transferred, it being understood that on no other plea whatever shall anything be deducted from my wages; and in faith of fulfilling punctually this said obligation, I signed in Amoy, this the 30th day of August 1852.

It is understood that the salary agreed shall commence to run from within 24 hours after landing at Demerara, unless both parties agree to cancel this agreement after arrival there.

楊杉

Witness to signature, the contents being duly understood by the said Sin Hoon.

Robert J. Nelson.

THIS Indenture having been assigned to me as
of plantation I engage to deduct
the sum of dollars, in monthly instalments of
dollars each, from such amount of wages as
may earn in my service, and to pay the amonnt monthly to the Immigration Agent-general, to be by him paid over to the agent of Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co.; and in event of the death of , or of his inability to earn wages, I hereby engage to establish the same to the satisfaction of the stipendiary magistrate.

Peter Rice,
Agent for Hyde, Hodge & Co.

立約人楊秩、原貫屬福建省、泉州府、縣、邑、行年二十、如今相訂、欲搭宜順井卿船、往英吉利咪阿那埠、到埠後、自願聽從該地尊總管來客者使喚、無論何等工夫、所定與吾行者、或耕作、或他事業、皆當操作、時候悉照該埠常規、至或工夫更不只乎耕種者、總總悉聽尊總管或別執照人所命、工艮每月弍元、每日牛肉半磅、另別樣所須食物壹磅半、又每年給以小絨汗衫一件、洋氈一張、衣服二套、並醫藥之助、如若有病逾半月者、工銀亦暫停止、待至病愈、復能作工、始算工錢、然當病際、醫藥猶時施給、如不依上所議、則每月惟受工艮弍元、其供應食用、悉自辦理、如約內所云、僱工五年、五年內不准擅離該埠、亦不得不聽執照者之命、期滿後、即聽從自便而行、至於渡費、與及船上食物等項、均是入楊秩之數、從德記行手、吾亦曾收銀弍元、以備船上雜費之用、另新衣服二套、以爲抵岸之須、其衣該艮弍元、合共艮肆元、大員俱係德記行代發之所支、此銀承管事官滴之命、將在呢麻拉地給還、即托該地總管來客者、或別執照人、將工艮逐月扣回一員、以償其數、現下言明、將來不得另尋他故、將工艮扣除、恐口無憑、立此爲據、

咸豐二　年七　月十弍日立約人楊秩　的筆

再者、目下約明、工艮到埠後、一日夜方始起計、若二家情願、到埠將此紙另行册改、亦可、

— No. 6.—

(No. 15.)

No. 6.
Governor Barkly to the Duke of Newcastle.
8 February 1853.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Barkly* to his Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*.

Government House, 8 February 1853.
(Received, 9 March 1853.)

My Lord Duke,

1. IN reporting the arrival of the "Glentanner" and "Lord Elgin," with Chinese immigrants, in my despatch of 24th ultimo, No. 8,* I mentioned my intention of appointing a special commission of inquiry into the causes of the great mortality which had occurred on board the latter ship.

* Page 9.

2. I have now the honour to transmit the report of the commission, which I constituted of three gentlemen whom I thought likely to throw light upon the subject, viz. the Honourable Mr. Vander Gon Netscher, a member of the Court Policy, and not long since a lieutenant in the Dutch navy, in which capacity he spent, I believe, nine years on the Java station and became acquainted with the habits of the Chinese and the navigation of the seas in that part of the world; Dr. Blair, the surgeon-general, who from the length of time he has been in charge of the colonial hospital, is most experienced in regard to the diseases to which immigrants in tropical countries are liable; and Mr. Butts, inspector-general of police, who, several years ago, was sent as immigration agent for this colony to the coast of Africa, and was accompanied on his return by a large body of Kroomen.

3. It will be seen that the commissioners attribute the deplorable loss of life on this occasion, first, to the unsuitableness of the vessel for such a voyage, and second, to the neglect of the rules laid down in the Imperial Passengers' Act, and that they suggest regulations for the carriage of Chinese in future, much in accordance with those which I have already recommended with the sanction of the health officer of the port.

4. They conclude by stating that they see no sufficient ground for refusing to pay the bounty on the number of immigrants landed alive in the colony, a conclusion which at first sight seemed to me somewhat at variance with the premises; but as some allowance no doubt is due on account of the novelty of the experiment; as all that humanity could dictate would appear to have been done by the captain to alleviate the sufferings of his passengers, a second surgeon having been employed from Java to the Cape during the desperate illness from which both the surgeon in charge and himself suffered; and as it was well understood that even if the shipowners received the bounty they would sustain a loss of some 1,500 *l.* from the voyage, I felt myself justified in complying with this part of the report, and ordering payment to be made.

5. Had I declined to do so indeed, the further question raised by the health officer would have had to be determined, namely, whether the colonial immigration agent having received at the depôt, and located the survivors, payment of the bounty advertised by the colony would not have been compellable by law in respect to them.

6. Humanity would of course forbid any dispute on such a subject, whilst immigrants were still cooped on board ship after a long voyage, but it adds, I think, an additional reason to those which I adduced in my former despatch, why the open bounty competition should at once be put an end to, and the vessels engaged, as for cooly immigration, under charter parties containing stringent securities for due fulfilment of all the requirements of the Passengers' Act, which could be enforced by subsequent legal proceedings, whether the immigrants had been accepted or not.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Henry Barkly.*

Enclosure in No. 6.

Encl. in No. 6.

TO his Excellency *Henry Barkly*, Esq., Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Colony of British Guiana, Vice-Admiral and Ordinary of the same, &c., &c., &c.

Sir,

WE the undersigned, having by your Excellency's command been constituted as a Board for the purpose of inquiring into and reporting upon the cause of the great mortality which occurred amongst the Chinese immigrants, embarked on board the "Lord Elgin," on her

BRITISH GUIANA.

recent voyage from Amoy to this colony, from such written and oral evidence as might be available, have now the honour to report, that,

1. We have visited the barque in question, and measured the accommodation for immigrants therein, and have ascertained from evidence that the ship was very crank.

2. We have inspected part of the provisions shipped at Amoy for the immigrants, and left on board.

3. We have examined the charts which point out the vessel's track on the voyage in question, and perused the very incomplete ship's journal, as well as the enclosed table of diseases and deaths (enclosed No. 1), and the memorandum (enclosed No. 2) from Dr. David Shier, the medical officer on board.

Page 22.

Page 20.

4. We have, both verbally and in writing, put a variety of questions to the surgeon, the captain, and some of the men on board, with respect to the issues and quality of the provisions during the voyage, and received from the captain a written reply as per enclosure, No. 3, but from Dr. Shier we have as yet received no written communication but what is referred to in para. No. 3.

Page 21.

5. We have ascertained that the voyage from Amoy, 25° north lat., to Singapore, 1.30 north lat., occupied 62 days (from 23d July to the 23d September), during which time four Chinese only died.

6. The voyage from Singapore to Anjar, a port in the Strait of Sunda, on the Java shores, 6° south lat., occupied 23 days, from the 26th September till the 19th October, during which time five Chinese died, four from anasarca, and one from anemia, which, with the four mentioned in the last para., make only nine deaths during the 88 days, just the half of the 177 days' voyage to Demerara.

7. Twenty-four hours before reaching Port Anjar the barque struck on Brower's Bank, a hard shoal close to Anjar, on the Java shore, but she got off without making water.

On the 24th October, three days after leaving Anjar, at a distance from that place of about 260 English miles, it was discovered that the vessel had sprung a leak, and made considerable water. Thereupon the ship was observed to be "steaming considerably," arising from the fermentation of the cargo of rice below the passengers' deck, which fermentation, according to the evidence of Dr. Shier, filled the vessel with sulphurated hydrogen gas to such an extent, that everything painted became discoloured and black, and even some of the medicines in stoppered bottles were decomposed, circumstances to which Dr. Shier mainly attributes the increased sickness and mortality among the passengers. The rice in the undermost layers of the hold being wet, continued fermenting and infesting the vessel with its deadly exhalations, and notwithstanding the rice, biscuit, salt-fish, &c., &c., given to the Chinese, were, as far as the Board can ascertain, sufficient in quantity, and good in quality, and that, as appears from the log-book and Dr. Shier's testimony, portions of sugar, lime-juice, and garlic were issued, sickness, in the form of anasarca and dysentery, with much scorbutic eruption and debility, increased among the immigrants, insomuch that in the 46 days of the voyage from Anjar to the Cape, there were 41 deaths; and during the 39 days' passage from the Cape to Demerara, where the vessel arrived on the 17th January 1853, 19 deaths, making altogether 69 deaths from among the 154 Chinese immigrants shipped at Amoy.

8. The vessel's stay at Singapore, Anjar, and the Cape of Good Hope, was very short, only two days at the former, and three days at the latter of these places; the captain has furnished the Board with a list of supplies purchased for the Chinese at those places, as well as at Anjar (see enclosure No. 4), and also a list of articles for their use taken on board at Amoy, as per enclosure No. 5.

Pages 19 and 20.

9. Dr. Shier not having as yet furnished his written report in reply to the applications of the Board, we are left, as regards the water, to his verbal statement on this head, from which we gather that the Singapore water was indifferent, and the Anjar water good; but that before arriving at the Cape the Anjar water had been all used, which compelled the captain to fall back on the Singapore water for use, until the ship arrived at the Cape, where the water shipped was of good quality.

10. The ventilation on board the "Lord Elgin" was very deficient, the hatches being small, the height between decks from plank to plank 6 feet, and only four small port-holes, 9 inches by 4, being on each side, and which, at sea, were but too often closed to prevent the admission of sea-water; besides which, there were no wind kokers or openings between the timbers to take off the foul air, and even the main-hatch was covered with the long-boat.

11. No arrangement for hospital accommodation existed during the voyage, so that the sick, to the number of 12 to 14 at a time, were of necessity placed in the long-boat, whose position is above described, and whose capacity is 22 feet long by 8½ wide, as a substitute for a hospital.

12. The measurements of the vessel, as regards the accommodation for immigrants, taken by the Board, were as follows:—

	ft.	*in.*
Depth under the beam	5	4
Depth under the deck	6	1
Width	23	5
Length	72	0

Being 9,936 cubic feet, or 1,656 superficial feet; thus allowing for each immigrant only 11 superficial feet between decks, while the last Passengers' Act of 1852 requires for each 15 superficial feet.

From

From the foregoing we have arrived at the conclusion that the causes of the great mortality on this voyage are attributable.

Firstly. To the very long confinement in foul air, as clearly demonstrated by the fact, that in the former half of the voyage one-seventh only, and in the latter half six-sevenths of the deaths occurred (see para. 6).

Secondly. To the crankness of the vessel, the want of room for exercise, as shown by the measurements (para. 12), and the deficient supply of variety in the food, especially fresh provisions, &c.

Thirdly. By not having had recourse to the rules and regulations of the Passengers' Act of 1852, which, if adopted, would, in the opinion of this Board, have prevented most, if not all the evils which we have now to deplore.

Deeply impressed, therefore, with the correctness of the conclusions at which we have arrived after due deliberation on this painful case, we most respectfully recommend that in future the said Passengers' Act be made the groundwork of all regulations in importing to this colony immigrants from east of the Cape of Good Hope, and that for the purpose of carrying out these views, no ship of less than 1,000 tons be allowed for this service.

As regards the question of the bounty referred to us by your Excellency's minute on the correspondence herewith returned between the health officer and the Immigration Agent-general, we humbly submit that we see no sufficient ground for a refusal to pay the same.

We have, &c.
(signed) *A. D. V. Gon Netscher*, Chairman.
Daniel Blair, M.D., Surgeon-General.
R. G. Butts.

P.S.—Since the foregoing report was written, we have received Dr. Shier's answer to the letters of the Board, which is herewith laid over, No. 6.

(signed) *A. D. V. Gon Netscher.*

LIST of STORES on board "Lord Elgin" for Chinese at *Singapore.*

10 lbs. alum; 1 cask of arrack for crew and passengers, 80 gallons; 1 case, 139 lbs., preserved provisions for sick, if required, and 4 pigs, 2 for crew; 6 peculs yams, and 4 peculs chalots, half for crew; 4 bags chunam, 6 bags sand, 20 peculs of 133 lbs. of best salt fish, 5,000 pieces firewood. Bagar expenses for fresh fish, vegetables, and for coolies, 15 dollars; 45 tons water, medicines, $34. 50.

At *Anjar.*

17 tons water, 2 fathoms firewood, 16 peculs sweet potatoes, 100 cocoanuts for Basino, 100 pumpkins, 2 cases of geneva for medicines, 10 bags of chunam, 10 bags of sand, 6 pigs, jar chloride of lime, 1 bott. of blistering fluid, 200 lbs. fresh pork, half cwt. vegetables.

At *Cape Good Hope.*

25 tons water, 1 carcass of mutton, 70 lbs. fresh beef; 8 sheep for coolies, 2 for crew; vegetables for coolies, 3*l.* 4*s.* 4*d.*; 8 cwt. ship bread, medicines, chloride of lime, &c., 12*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.*

Immigration Agent-General's Office,
28 January 1853.

Sir,

IN consequence of repeated applications having been made to me by the attorney of Messrs. Booker to certify his account for bounty on 86 Chinese, introduced in the ship "Lord Elgin," I addressed a letter to the acting health officer, copy of which, with his reply, are hereunto annexed, and are transmitted for the information of his Excellency the Governor, and respectfully request that I may be instructed whether I have any right to withhold my certificate for the introduction of the people in question for any longer period.

I have, &c.
(signed) *William Humphrys,*
Immigration Agent-General.

The Hon. William Walker,
&c. &c. &c.
Government Secretary.

Immigration Agent-General's Office,
26 January 1853.

Sir,

HAVING been applied to several times by the agent of Mr. Booker for my certificate of the arrival of Chinese in his ship, the "Lord Elgin," I have on all occasions refused to do so until your report had been sent in to his Excellency the Governor; as I am not aware whether this has yet been done, I request to be informed with regard to this delay, and on what grounds, so as to be guided in what manner I am to proceed.

I have, &c.
(signed) *William Humphrys,*
Immigration Agent-General.

E. A. Manget, Esq., M.D.
Acting Health Officer.

BRITISH GUIANA.

Sir, George Town, 27 January 1853.

In reply to your letter of the 26th instant, referring to Messrs. Booker's application for your certificate, to enable them to receive the bounty money for the Chinese arrived by the "Lord Elgin," I beg to state that I have already informed his Excellency that my report could not be sent in until Dr. Shier, who is still very unwell, shall have furnished me the necessary information regarding the immigrants per "Lord Elgin."

I cannot say exactly when my report will be sent in.

If I be allowed to give my humble opinion, I would say that Messrs. Booker and Brothers are entitled to the bounty money, the immigrants who have arrived by their vessel having been already allotted.

I have, &c.

William Humphrys, &c.
Immigration Agent-General.

(signed) *E. A. Manget, M.D.*
Acting Health Officer.

(True copies.)

(signed) *William Humphrys*, I. A. G.

MEMORANDUM

On the return voyage from Amoy to Demerara with Chinese, which being a private speculation, and not conducted under authority, I was not furnished with the necessary journals, printed forms and documents required to be kept by surgeons on board emigrant ships under authority.

During the voyage I kept a regular medical journal, but from the arduous nature of my duties, from the enfeebled state of my health, and from the want of accommodation on board, I was unable to transcribe it.

I am now engaged transcribing, but as the voyage extended to six months, and as the amount of disease on board was very great, it will be rather a laborious task, and will occupy some time; when finished I shall have much pleasure in laying it before the board. In the meantime I shall be glad, if required, to appear before the board and answer questions that may be put to me.

I may add that on Sunday last I gave to the health officer a printed form, containing the leading particulars regarding the mortality on board the "Lord Elgin" during the voyage.

(signed) *D. S.*

C. G. H. Davis, Esq.,
Secretary to the Chinese Board.

Pln. Kitty, 28 January 1853.

INVOICE of Stores shipped for the use of Coolies, per "Lord Elgin," on the Voyage from *Amoy* to *Demerara*.

350 bamboo pillows.
350 sleeping mats.
100 razors.
10 choppers.
500 rice bowls.
250 tea cups.
100 rice ladles, large and small.
200 brooms.
250 combs.
4 baskets soup peculs.
50 baskets.
50 mess rids.
6 bottles mustard.
12 rice measures.
6 gongs.
14 guitars.
12 flutes.
2 bundles playing cards.
50 catties tobacco.
10 iron puns.
100 bricks for cooking places.
90 jars surd peculs.
15 peculs biscuits.
10 „ sugar.
50 tubs cabbage.
5 peculs garlic.
10 „ salt.
2 tubs vinegar.
2 peculs tea.
10 dried fish.
20 peculs salt fish.
12 „ tea oil.
20 „ potatoes and pumpkins.
50 large plates.
50 cutties sulphur.
160 white waistcoats.
160 yellow trousers.
160 black ditto.
160 black jackets.
160 yellow ditto.
320 sheets.
295 pairs shoes.
200 wooden shoes.
22 tubs, salt beef.
33 peculs, cooking places.
8 large water tubs.
500 bales chop sticks.

BRITISH GUIANA.

Barque "Lord Elgin," River Demerary,
31 January 1853.

Sir,

In answer to your communication of date the 29th current (from the Chinese Board), for the information of the gentlemen composing that board, I beg to send the following answers, viz:— Communication No. 1.

Answer 1. At Hong Kong, 11 peculs of 133 lbs. each of stock fish, for coolies only, also four pec. for cabin use.

Messrs. Tait & Co.'s list of stores, shipped list of stores at Singapore, at Anjar, and Cape Good Hope, all herewith enclosed.

Answer 2. Arrack was issued to the Chinese at all times on Dr. Shier's order, and in quantities varying from half to a full wineglass per man per day, off the Cape Good Hope in cold water daily.

Answer 3. The distance run may be seen by referring to that book, and the true position by observation, by reference to the vessel's track on charts herewith sent.

Answer 4. The log-book contains, I believe, the amounts respectively issued for the whole coolies on board, except sago and tea for the sick, which was at Dr. Shier's disposal, and issued as requisite by him. On account of my own illness, I could not give the attention to this and other matters I should have wished.

Answer 5. Three charts are herewith sent, showing the vessel's outward track to Madras, also homeward track from China. Communication No. 2.

Answer 1. Lat. 7.47 South, 101° 25′ E. at 4.30 P. M. civil time, 24 October 1852, pumped half an hour, and then had 17 inches at the pump. Made about one foot per hour according as she lay over, and immersed her side, and increased the pressure more or less.

Answer 2. The extent to which the rice has been damaged is yet unascertained, but none of damaged rice was issued to Chinese passengers.

Answer 3. The original log has been already sent.

I remain, &c.
(signed) *A M'Clelland.*

C. H. Davies, Esq.,
Secretary to Chinese Board.

Port of Georgetown, Demerary,
17 January 1853.

Health Officer's Report of Immigrants by the Lord Elgin, which arrived here on the 17 January, 177 days from Amoy, having touched at Singapore, Anjar, Cape of Good Hope.

Master's Name -	A. C. M'Clelland.	Number of Crew -	15
Surgeon's Name -	David Shier.	Registered Tonnage -	353
Quarantine - -		Passengers' Deck feet by	feet.

Numeral List.

EMIGRANTS.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants. M.	Infants. F.	Total.
Embarked on the 23 July 1852 - - - -	115	—	39*	—.	—	—	154
Died on the Voyage - -	58	—	11	—	—	—	69
Born on the Voyage -	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arrived in Port - -	57	—	28	—	—	—	85
For Hospital - - -	5	—	1	—	—	—	—
For Immediate Distribution	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* Under 21 years of age.

BRITISH GUIANA.

In Reply to Question No. 1.

List of Names of *Chinese* Immigrants who died on the Voyage from *Amoy* to *Demerara* on board the Barque "Lord Elgin," with a Statement of their Numbers in the Shipping List, Ages, Diseases, and Dates of Death.

Number.	Number in List.	Age.	NAME.	DISEASE.	Date of Death.
					1852.
1	58	19	Teoh Oo	Dysentery	August - 15
2	2	28	Ho What	- ditto -	Sept. - 1
3	130	22	Tseah Laugh	- ditto -	„ - 7
4	122	30	Yak Ong	- ditto -	„ - 20
5	78	19	Tsooh Lai	Anæmia	Oct. - 9
6	64	18	Eung Kee	Anasarca	„ - 13
7	145	25	Ong Seong	- ditto -	„ - 15
8	35	23	Tih Hieng	- ditto -	„ - 18
9	69	24	See Tsong	- ditto -	„ - 19
10	60	32	Yap Soo	- ditto -	„ - 22
11	126	28	Goh Buing	Dysentery	„ - 27
12	107	30	Yop Yong	- ditto -	„ - 31
13	116	28	An Ong	Congestion of lung	Nov. - 2
14	80	22	Tioh Huing	Anasarca	„ - 5
15	59	28	Lap Loh	- ditto -	„ - 6
16	65	22	Ng Beh	Fever, Typhoid	„ - 9
17	103	24	Ng Koh	Anasarca	„ - 11
18	118	19	Lan Yu	- ditto -	„ - 16
19	105	22	Lim Cheong	- ditto -	„ - 17
20	133	31	Kay Soo	Anæmia	„ - 17
21	140	18	Ang Tiang	Anasarca	„ - 18
22	22	29	Ng Yoik	- ditto -	„ - 18
23	83	30	Lan Lai	- ditto -	„ - 19
24	93	33	Lee Whan	- ditto -	„ - 19
25	129	21	Toh Piang	- ditto -	„ - 19
26	7	30	Goh Ken	- ditto -	„ - 19
27	104	24	Tan Tingh	- ditto -	„ - 20
28	56	27	Tan Lak	- ditto -	„ - 21
29	A 4	18	Tam Toh	- ditto -	„ - 22
30	143	24	Tan Gieh	Congestion of lungs	„ - 22
31	81	30	Tan Koon	Dysentery	„ - 23
32	115	22	Zam Kim	Anasarca	„ - 23
33	57	20	Pee Seeung	- ditto -	„ - 23
34	94	34	Lok Luam	- ditto -	„ - 24
35	137	24	Soh Twa	- ditto -	„ - 24
36	41	21	Tee Heeik	- ditto -	„ - 24
37	109	32	Ong Rat	- ditto -	„ - 26
38	136	28	Ong Tsien	- ditto -	„ - 28
39	92	22	Seeung Lee	- ditto -	„ - 29
40	A 5	19	Tum Towy	- ditto -	„ - 29
41	92	30	Yap Pung	- ditto -	„ - 30
42	144	30	Loh Kan	- ditto -	Dec. - 1
43	113	29	Oo Chuen	- ditto -	„ - 2
44	54	17	Lah Tsui	- ditto -	„ - 2
45	45	28	Tan Twan	- ditto -	„ - 2
46	135	28	Lem Chieng	- ditto -	„ - 3
47	12	28	Ng Tshut	- ditto -	„ - 5
48	4	20	Lim Kiung	- ditto -	„ - 5
49	89	36	How Tih	Dysentery	„ - 7
50	68	28	Gwa Pun	Anasarca	„ - 7
51	110	21	Tee Leong	- ditto -	„ - 10
52	15	24	Koh Tshee	- ditto -	„ - 10
53	85	32	Lim Swa	- ditto -	„ - 11
54	66	34	Ng Chuen	Dysentery	„ - 11
55	17	23	Soh Fat	- ditto -	„ - 11
56	75	25	Tan Kian	Anasarca	„ - 12
57	88	27	Oh Swanne	Fever, complicated	„ - 16
58	52	30	Ong Swan	Anasarca	„ - 17
59	10	24	Givee Chuen	Fever, complicated	„ - 18
60	82	25	Goh Tsee	Anasarca	„ - 18
61	111	24	Koh Mooie	- ditto -	„ - 21
62	132	26	Tswa Ong	- ditto -	„ - 21
63	146	21	Gan Loo	- ditto -	„ - 28
64	98	27	Lim Pok	- ditto -	„ - 31

Number.	Number in List.	Age.	NAME.	DISEASE.	Date of Death.
					1853.
65	132	22	Tan Sing - -	Anasarca - -	Jan. - 1
66	84	32	Goh Him - -	- ditto - - -	„ - 6
67	73	19	Ung Why - -	- ditto - - -	„ - 7
68	31	21	Tsan Puing - -	Diarrhœa, complicated	„ - 14
69	9	23	Lan Yam - -	Anasarca - -	„ - 16

Fever, Typhoid and complicated - - -	3
Anæmia - - - - - - - - -	2
Congestion of the lungs - - - - -	2
Dysentery - - - - - - -	11
Dropsy - - - - - - - - -	51
	69

In the commencement of the voyage the diseases that prevailed arose from derangement of the digestive organs, as indicated by constipation, headache, diarrhœa, &c. The cause of these diseases obviously was, that the immigrants were put on a regular and full diet, to which most of them had been entirely unaccustomed.

Itch very speedily made its appearance, and spread over almost the whole of the immigrants. Ophthalmia also prevailed among a few in the early part of the voyage. The few fatal cases arising from dysentery in the early part of the voyage occurred among those who had been addicted to an immoderate use of opium, and whose constitutions are much impaired before leaving China.

The most prevalent diseases, however, were dropsy, dysentery, and ulcerated mouth; these arose from poisonous gases, bad ventilation, and want of exercise; but there was comparatively little appearance of these diseases till towards the end of the third month of the voyage.

List of Medicines and Medical Comforts. Supply for any number of Emigrants from 50 to 100. The quantities to be increased for any additional number beyond 100, at the rate of half these quantities per 100.

	lbs.	oz.
Acacia gum - - - -	–	6
Acetate of lead - - -	–	3
Adhesive plaster - - -	1	4
Alumen - - - -	–	6
Antimonial powder - -	–	2
Aromatic spirit of ammonia -	–	8
Blistering ointment - -	1	8
Blue pill - - - -	–	4
Carbonate of ammonia - -	–	3
Camphor - - - - -	–	6
Catechu - - - - -	–	2
Cerate (simple) - - -	1	8
Chloride of lime - - -	4	8
Calomel - - - - -	–	6
Castor oil - - - -	4	8
Compound tincture of camphor	–	8
Dover's powder - - -	–	4
Epsom salts - - - -	2	–
Extract of colocynth - -	–	3
Ginger powder - - -	–	6
Jalap - ditto - - -	–	4
Ipecacuan ditto - - -	–	3
Nitrate of silver - - -	–	½
Opium - - - - -	–	3
Oil of peppermint - - -	–	½
Peruvian balsam - - -	–	6
Quinine - - - -	–	¾
Red precipitate - - -	–	1

	lbs.	oz.
Rhubarb powder - - -	–	3
Spirit of nitrous ether - -	–	10
Sulphuric ether - - -	–	6
Sulphate of zinc - - -	–	3
Ditto of copper - - -	–	3
Sulphur - - - -	2	–
Senna leaves - - -	1	–
Tartrate of antimony - -	–	¾
Tincture of opium - -	1	8
Country Medicines, &c.		
Splints, common, long - -	1 set of 3 pairs each.	
Ditto ditto - short - -	1 ditto	
Lint - - - - oz.	6	
Leather skins, white - No.	2	
Cloth for bandages and plasters - - - yards	10	
Cumblies for fomentation, No.	3	
Cocoa nut oil for external application - - -bottles	2	
Rum for external application „	20	
Soap for ditto - - lbs.	5	
Rice flour for poultices - „	30	
Mustard, powdered - bottles	2	
Salt, common - - lbs.	2	
Leeches - - - No.	100	

Utensils.	
Tow, fine - - - lbs.	1½
Syringes, clyster, pewter pint - - - - No.	1
Syringes, penis ditto - „	2
Tourniquet field - - „	2
Measure glass, 1 oz. - „	1
Mortars and pestles, Wedgwood - - - No.	1
Scales and weights, small, box	1
Phials, sorted - - No.	6
Pill boxes - - papers	½
Bolus knife - - No.	1
Bed pans - - - „	2
Candles, wax - - „	6
Lanterns, small, or hand lamp - - - No.	1
Saucepan - - - „	2
Medical Comforts.	
Arrow root - - lbs.	25
Brandy - - bottles	12
Sago - - - - lbs.	25
Spice - - box 4 oz.	
Sugar - - - lbs.	100
Lime juice - - - pints	100
Vinegar - - - gal.	3
Marine soap - half cwt.	

The foregoing list of medicines and medical comforts was supplied to me by the Immigration Agent-general of Demerara before starting on the voyage to Madras with return Coolies; but

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but as I judged it exceedingly inadequate and defective, I submitted it to the Colonial Surgeon-general, who agreed with me in opinion, and we accordingly obtained the following additions:—

2 lb. Acid, Acetic.	½ oz. Bichd. Mercy.	1 oz. Kreosote.
½ oz. „ Arsenious.	2 lb. Bitart. Potash.	ʒij Elaterium.
6 oz. „ Hydrocyanic.	3 lb. Carbonate of Soda.	2 Bladders of Lard.
8 oz. „ Muriatic.	2 oz. Chloride of Zinc.	2 lb. Magnesia.
1 lb. „ Nitric.	2 oz. Chloroform.	1 lb. Mur. Ammonia.
1 lb. „ Nitrous.	1 lb. Tr. Colch. Seeds.	ʒij „ Morphia.
½ lb. „ Sulphuric.	2 oz. Collodion.	1 lb. Nitrate Potash.
2 lb. „ Tartaric.	6 oz. Creta preparat.	2 lb. Quassia.
2 Quart Bottles Alcohol.	1 Phial Croton Oil.	1 oz. Scammony.
6 oz. Aloes.	ʒij Hydr. C. Creta.	6 lb. Starch.
1 lb. Aqua Ammonia.	4 oz. Iod. Potash.	4 oz. Sulph. Iron.
3 oz. Assafœtida.	1 oz. Iodine.	2 Quart Bottles of Turpentine.
2 lb. Piper Cubebæ.	1 oz. Oil of Cloves.	6 oz. Citrine Ointment.
2 Quart Bottles Balsam Copaiba.	2 lb. W. Hellebore.	1 pint Aqua Potassa.

Before we arrived at the Cape of Good Hope on the outward voyage, it was found that some of the medicines had become exhausted, and the deficiencies were there supplied, and this supply proved adequate to the requirements of the outward voyage; but for the homeward voyage with Chinese, it was found impossible to obtain several important articles of the materia medica, although eventually, as will be seen, these defects were supplied.

At Amoy a supply of medical stores and comforts was laid in; sago of fine quality was procured, and during the homeward voyage was freely supplied to the sick twice a day; one dozen bottles of brandy, six dozen of beer, were also taken as stores.

On calling at Singapore a further supply of medicines and stores was procured, such as jalap, ginger, camphor, kino, iodide of potash, calomel, lard, &c., but some of these were found to be of bad quality.

At Anjar further supplies were obtained from the shipping, such as blistering fluid, sweet spirits of nitre, nitre, &c.; and at the Cape of Good Hope, when our previous supply of medicines had become exhausted, especially such as were required in the treatment of dropsy, one gallon tincture of digitalis, one gallon sweet spirits of nitre, sulphuric ether, laudanum, jalap, ginger, nitre, acetate of potash, cream of tartar, calomel, two hundredweight chloride of lime, &c. were obtained.

It is true that the medicines contained in the foregoing official list might suffice for the exigencies of a voyage during which no endemic or serious disease occurred among the crew or immigrants, but it is clearly altogether inadequate to the necessities of such a case as occurred on board the Lord Elgin. Not merely are the quantities of the medicines insufficient, but many most essential articles of the materia medica are altogether wanting.

Reply to Question No. 2.

The long-boat was set apart at Amoy as a hospital; it was floored and roofed over, and had curtains at each side, which could be raised at pleasure.

The long-boat could accommodate 14 patients, besides the keeper and his assistant. It was but a poor substitute for an hospital, for the access to it was at the height of eight feet above the deck; and the change of position caused by the tacking of the ship, a thing of incessant occurrence during the first three months of the voyage, was very injurious to the enfeebled sick.

Reply to Question No. 3.

A supply of water was laid in at Singapore on our outward voyage, in case any difficulty might arise at Amoy in finding a sufficient supply. On the voyage from Singapore to Amoy dysentery appeared among the officers and crew on board, and as the water had a most offensive smell and taste, I ordered the whole of it to be rejected on our arrival at Amoy, and after cleansing the casks, which were very indifferent, had them filled with Amoy water. The water at Amoy is very impure, containing a large quantity of vegetable matter and fine clay; but as we followed the custom which prevails universally in China, of boiling all the water used for drinking and culinary purposes, and as it was water similar to what the immigrants had been accustomed to use, I anticipated no bad results.

At Singapore all the empty water casks were filled up, I believe, to the amount of 25 tons.

The water supplied to the shipping at this place is very impure, containing a large quantity of vegetable matter in a state of decomposition. Knowing the quality of the water, I resolved

resolved to use every means in my power to prevent bad consequences. I sent on shore for quicklime but none could be procured; and I therefore used alum, a certain quantity of which was added in solution to each cask.

A small quantity of water of good quality was taken in at Anjar.

At the Cape of Good Hope a further supply of water was taken in; the water there is from a mountain torrent, and is very pure.

I may here add that it is my opinion that change of water during voyage is to be avoided as much as possible, even although the water at first may not have been of the very best quality.

(signed) *David Shier*, M.D.

Pln. Kitty, 3 February 1853.

—No. 7.—

(No. 21.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Barkly* to His Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*.

No. 7.
Governor Barkly to the Duke of Newcastle.
11 February 1853.

Government House, 11 February 1853.
(Received, 22 March 1853.)
(Answered, No. 48, 14 May 1853, page 115.)

My Lord Duke,

I HAVE the honour to submit for your Grace's consideration two Ordinances passed by the Court of Policy, intituled respectively—

(No. 2 of 1853.)—"An Ordinance for regulating the rights, duties and relations of employers and servants in the colony of British Guiana."

(No. 3 of 1853.)—"An Ordinance to repeal certain Ordinances now in force for the regulation and encouragement of immigration into this colony, and to make other provisions in lieu thereof,"

This Ordinance will be found in the Appendix to the present Paper, p. 171.

together with usual Reports from the Attorney-General, Mr. Craig, upon their provisions regarded in a legal point of view.

Vide Appendix, p. 174.

2. It might seem at first sight that as no less than four Ordinances on the subject of immigrants,—framed in the autumn of 1850, after the model of the Mauritius laws sent for the purpose, and altered in the autumn of 1851, to meet the objections of Earl Grey and the East India Company,—had come into actual operation so recently as the 17th February 1852, it would have been more prudent to await further experience of their operation before again proceeding to legislate on the subject; but your Grace is doubtless aware that Sir John Pakington, soon after he succeeded to the Colonial Department, promised the West India body publicly that he would revise the laws affecting the relations between employer and labourer, and as those in force in this colony had never met the cordial assent of the Legislature, and were, it must be candidly admitted, owing to the complexity of their details and the variety of the regulations they prescribed for different classes of immigrants, little calculated to give satisfaction either to the magistracy, the proprietors of estates, or the immigrants themselves, I felt it my duty not to oppose a motion for a select committee, made by an elective member in the month of August last.

3. That committee, after a lengthened investigation, in which they were assisted by replies from the stipendiary magistrates to a circular which I was requested to issue, calling on those gentlemen for any observations they might wish to make in regard to the working of the laws, sent in their report, of which I have the honour to enclose a copy, recommending that those parts of the four Ordinances regulating the Immigration Office, and the mode of introducing and indenturing immigrants, should be consolidated into one; and that all matters connected with the relations between such immigrants and their employers should henceforth be governed by the provisions of Ordinance No. 2* of 1848, commonly called "The Master and Servant's Ordinance."

4. Two Bills were accordingly introduced, and after frequent discussions, in the course of which they underwent innumerable alterations, have been matured, with the unanimous concurrence of the Court, into the Ordinances now transmitted for approval and confirmation.

5. With regard to the first of these, I need add little to what the Attorney-general has said. It differs little from its predecessor, No. 2* of 1848, which the stipendiary magistrates, one and all, reported, after nearly five years' experience, to have worked well and satisfactorily to all concerned; and being myself responsible

* This Ordinance will be found printed at page 489 of Papers relative to the West Indies, House of Lords' Paper, No. 250, August 1848.

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sible for the principal amendments made, I have every confidence that I can show them to be deserving of that name.

6. The grounds on which I urged that jurisdiction should be given, in cases involving less than 24 dollars (5 *l.*) penalty, to one justice of the peace, instead of to two, as proposed by the Committee, were, firstly, that it would have fettered the independence and detracted from the utility of the stipendiary magistracy, on whom the entire magisterial supervision of immigrant labourers has hitherto devolved, and by whom nineteen-twentieths of all the other magisterial business of the country is transacted, had it been rendered imperative for them to associate with themselves another justice in all cases arising between employer and servant, whilst to have urged an exception in their favour would have been both invidious and useless; secondly, because as the law has stood since the adaptation of the 11 & 12 Vict. c. 43, to our Statute Book, no appeal lies from the decision of two justices where the amount is under that referred to, whereas the right of appeal to the next session of the Inferior Criminal Court, now presided over by one of the puisne judges, is given in all cases whatsoever decided before a single justice.

7. I am confident that the alteration in question will give much greater facilities for the due enforcement of the "Master and Servant's Ordinance," for though, since the passing of Ordinance 30 of 1850,* some few magistrates, considering that it repealed all pre-existing enactments of a contrary tenor, have adjudicated singly, others, as will be seen from Mr. Strutt's Report,† took an opposite view; and so much inconvenience and loss of time was thereby frequently occasioned from the difficulty of finding a second magistrate, that it operated as a denial of justice in the remoter districts, and especially up the rivers and creeks, where gentlemen fit to hold the commission of the peace are rarely to be found, and where, consequently, the superintendents, going their periodical rounds have often been unable to entertain complaints against woodcutters as to wages.

† *See* page 32.

8. The second alteration of any consequence is in section 16, which is not contained in the old Ordinance. The system of occupancy recognised in the preceding section, by which the totally distinct questions of rent and wages are confounded, has always appeared to my mind one of the most fatal errors committed by the planters after emancipation, and as having caused a larger number of labourers to quit their habitations on the estates than would have dreamt of going if house rent had at once been established upon a fair and independent basis; but as the planters were not alone to blame for the introduction of so bad a system; as it still prevails more or less in most of the West India colonies, and is, no doubt, occasionally of service in the few districts of this colony where it still prevails, in securing industry, I did not feel justified in pressing for an alteration, or in opposing the fixing a maximum rent of 16 cents a day where no sum was stipulated on entry, in lieu of leaving the amount, as heretofore, an open question, to be decided by two justices.

9. Seeing, however, how many unfortunate disputes on the subject came before me, and how generally suspicion fell in the case of those incendiary fires which still occasionally occur in the megass logies (barns for fuel) upon some labourer, recently ejected in a summary manner from his cottage, owing to a quarrel with the manager of the estate, I felt it to be of the utmost importance, for the welfare of society, to interpose in every instance such a delay as would give the latter time to recover his temper, often, it must be confessed, tried beyond all bounds of endurance, and afford the former a speedy and simple remedy against undue precipitancy or illegal stretches of authority in the mode of his ejectment, should it be irrevocably determined on.

10. It must not be inferred that the law as it stood heretofore offered no redress; for though the case has never been tried, I entertain no doubt, that unless the implied contract between the labourer and employer had lapsed on due notice, or been cancelled on account of misconduct by a magistrate, the labourer could not have been lawfully dispossessed of his tenancy without the notice required to be given by Ordinance No. 31 of 1846, "for facilitating the recovery of possession of tenements after due determination of the tenancy;" but in practice, nevertheless, the right to bring a civil action against the party ejecting him, generally the headman of the estate, acting on a verbal order from the manager to break open the door, and throw out the property on the dam (anglicè "roadside"), was equivalent to a denial of justice to an ignorant man, destitute of the means of retaining counsel, and lead, there is too much reason to fear, to the mode of revenge above alluded to,

* *See* page 593 of House of Commons' Paper relative to "British Guiana," No. 624, of 1 August 1851.

to, which generally had the anticipated result of depriving the manager of his situation.

11. I congratulate myself and the colony, therefore, on having obtained the consent of the Court of Policy to section 16, which requires an interval of three days to elapse, after a formal application to a justice of the peace, before a warrant of ejectment can be obtained, and gives the labourer the easy remedy of complaining to the justice of any breach of these regulations, which can be enforced by a penalty of 24 dollars upon the manager.

12. Turning next to Ordinance No. 3, I am afraid that I must enter at some length upon a review of the sections which relate to immigrants introduced into the colony from Her Majesty's possessions in the East Indies, as they vary materially from the provisions of the previous Ordinance specially enacted on the subject, No. 21 of 1851*, "An Ordinance further to regulate and encourage the immigration of coolies." * Page 164.

13. The very fact, indeed, of subjecting coolies to the ordinary law of master and servant, as already explained, constituted an important departure from the previous system. Whether the Honourable East India Company will object to such a measure, I know not, but I would beg most respectfully to submit this general argument in its favour, without reference at all to the obvious advantages of simplicity and uniformity in such matters; viz., that nothing can be more calculated to shake the confidence of the lower orders of this country in the equal administration of justice to all persons, irrespective of rank or complexion, than the infliction of one degree of punishment for the same offence committed by a coolie, another when by a Portuguese, a third if committed by a native of the colony; and yet this strange spectacle has been exhibited for some years past. Thus, for example, Ordinance 21 of 1851*, section 24, altered on the suggestion of the East India Company, subjects a coolie to a fine of 2*d.* a day for breach of contract; no mode whatever of recovering even this trifling sum where no wages are due being provided. Ordinance 20* of 1851, section 28, imposes on all other immigrants than coolies for a similar default, a penalty equal to two days' wages (say 2*s.* 8*d.* at the least), and enjoins imprisonment for two days, with hard labour, if such penalty be not paid. Lastly, Ordinance 2 of 1848, section 2, leaves it to the discretion of the justices, where creole labourers are concerned, to fine to any extent not exceeding 5 *l.*, or to imprison for any time not exceeding 30 days. Such seeming partiality towards their competitors in the labour market, aggravated, as it appears to them to be, by the payment of a bonus of 50 dollars to the coolies at the end of their term of service, has been frequently and loudly inveighed against by the emancipated negroes, and it is more than probable that it has had not a little to do with their extensive secession from plantation work. * Page 167. * Page 158.

14. As the coolies are quite as intelligent in regard to their rights and duties as the negroes, as they are equally protected from injustice by the stipendiary magistracy, and are able to earn very large sums of money by moderate industry, as proved by their own declarations on their return to India, I trust your Grace will see no reasons why they should not in future be rendered liable to the same legal obligations as have for years past, with Her Majesty's sanction, been imposed upon other British subjects resident in this colony.

15. Ordinance 3 of 1853 proceeds further to abolish, agreeably to the recommendation of the committee of the Court of Policy, the monthly sums payable under 21 of 1851, by any coolie not under indentures, requiring however in return a practical proof of his having fulfilled the condition of industrial residence upon which his claim to a free passage back to India depends, by payment of the annual sum exigible by law for house rent and medical attendance from all immigrants working at the current rate of wages, towards the fund for providing back passages.

16. I do not imagine that the directors of the East India Company will object to this modification, as they have always strongly opposed the imposition of these monthly sums, and though they urged Earl Grey to disallow Ordinance 24 of 1850, by which the Court of Policy endeavoured to throw a portion of the cost of his back passage upon the coolie, they did not, as his Lordship observed upon the occasion, do so upon the ground that the principle was an unfair one, but simply because the deduction proposed, viz. six dollars per annum, amounted, with the deduction of nine dollars for house rent and medical attendance, to 15 dollars, which appeared to them a larger sum than the immigrant ought to be

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called on to pay, if he were to be expected to carry back any portion of his earnings to India.

17. As the total contribution now suggested consists of the nine dollars a year which the employer is now authorised to exact; as it is to be payable by the coolie solely in the event of his deciding on returning to India, and at his option either monthly or in a lump sum; as the arrangement, moreover, with regard to those already in the colony, is to take effect prospectively, that is to say, that the coolie who has been here three years will receive his back passage on paying nine dollars in each of the two remaining years of his engagement, escaping the necessity of proving industrial residence for the time of his residence; I hardly think a more equitable plan could have been devised.

18. I did indeed suggest to the gentleman by whom this section was introduced, that a compulsory deduction from the wages of all coolies, for which the employer could be held responsible, would be preferable to his plan, as less troublesome to collect, and more nearly in accordance with the course suggested by Earl Grey in the despatch already alluded to; but he adduced such strong arguments to prove that the attempt to make the employer of labour, in the present state of this country, a collector of taxes for the State was impolitic, as creating a feeling of fresh antagonism on the part of the labourer, and as tending to promote wandering and idleness, with a view of evasion, that I yielded to the unanimous opinion of the elective section.

19. It is necessary to add that section 53 provides that section 30, by which this new arrangement, in regard to back passages is to be made, shall not take effect before the 30th June next, so that there will be sufficient time for your Grace to communicate your decision on the subject.

20. Section 31, it will be seen, contemplates the extension, with the permission of Her Majesty's Government, of the term for which the natives of India are now allowed to engage themselves in this colony from five years to ten; a result ardently hoped for by the colonists, from the confidence they entertain in the highly favourable nature of the report to be sent in by Mr. Caird. As it is understood that the directors have at length agreed to allow their subjects the privilege of emigrating to the Mauritius without any stipulation whatever for a back passage, I trust that this less sweeping alteration of allowing them to come here for ten, or at any rate eight years, will not be denied us.

21. Section 32 provides that in such case the sum to be contributed towards the back passage shall not exceed in the whole 45 dollars, or at the rate of $4\frac{1}{2}$ dollars per annum for 10 years, a sum, there is no doubt, much more likely to be contributed by the generality of coolies than nine dollars, which would form a very considerable proportion of the wages which many of them are now content to earn, and on that account has indeed been irregularly, if at all, deducted by their employers, for house rent and medical attendance.

22. Sections 33 and 34 were introduced to remove doubts which had arisen as to whether parties employing such coolies as had accepted the bonus of fifty dollars for entering upon a renewed term of industrial residence, were bound to pay contract duty and to keep up proper hospitals, precisely as if those coolies had been new immigrants introduced at the expense of the colony. Equity of course required that it should be so, but in several instances the letter of the law was pleaded, and coolies were actually urged not to enter, as they were disposed to do, into written contracts with their old employers, but to go to the estates of parties who were anxious to get them unindentured, for the purpose of evading the requirements of the Ordinances.

23. I have now completed my explanations of that part of Ordinance No. 3 of 1853 which relates to coolies, and as they have necessarily been of a lengthened description, I am unwilling to prolong this despatch by adverting to changes of less moment in regard to other classes of immigrants, but it is my duty not to omit pointing out that section 40 extends the contract permitted with liberated Africans to three years, as sanctioned in Sir John Pakington's circular* of 3d October; and I may add that I have succeeded, in section 41, in obtaining better security for the religious instruction and education of such immigrants than has hitherto existed, and I think that with the inducements held out by the Colonial Board of Education to schoolmasters willing to co-operate to this end, there is little risk of these essentials being neglected in future, even where proprietors of estates or their representatives are of themselves unmindful of their obligations, which I am bound to say is not often the case.

24. The

* See page 231 of House of Commons' Paper, No. 936, 16 August 1853, "Trinidad."

24. The remaining provisions of the Ordinance are traceable, with such additions or variations as experience has suggested, to some one or other of those which have preceded it, the general machinery for conducting immigration remaining, so far as I remember, entirely unaltered.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Henry Barkly.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 7.

Sir, Attorney General's Office, 9 February 1853. Encl. 1, in No. 7.

I HAVE the honour to report upon Ordinance No. 2, of the year 1853, intituled, "An Ordinance for regulating the rights, duties, and relations of employer and servants in the Colony of British Guiana."

This Ordinance has been framed in accordance with the views of a committee of the elective section of the Court of Policy, and only differs from the old law upon this subject in the following particulars. This Ordinance is made to apply to all classes of immigrants; jurisdiction is given to one justice of the peace instead of two, except in cases where the amount of penalty requires a second magistrate; and all complaints between "employers and servants" are to be heard and determined in conformity with the rules laid down in Ordinance No. 30, of the year 1850, the provisions of which have been taken from the 11 & 12 Vict. c. 43, and a right of appeal to a superior tribunal is also given, which will remove the objections which were formerly made to the authority of a single magistrate.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Robert R. Craig,*
To His Excellency the Governor. Attorney General.

Enclosure 2, in No. 7.

Sir, Attorney General's Office, 9 February 1853. Encl. 2, in No. 7.

I have the honour to report upon Ordinance No. 3 of 1853, intituled, "An Ordinance to repeal certain Ordinances, now in force, for the regulation and encouragement of immigration into this Colony, and to make other provisions in lieu thereof."

The object of this law, as expressed in the preamble, is to consolidate into one Ordinance the provisions of the several Ordinances in force for the regulation and encouragement of immigration into British Guiana, and for providing general regulations for immigrants introduced or to be introduced into the colony.

This course was suggested by a committee of the elective section of the Court of Policy, and a material alteration has been made in reference to the provision for the payment of back passages of coolies to the East Indies, a change which must await the decision of Her Majesty's Government, as provided by the clause (No. 53) in which it has been introduced.

The general provisions of this Ordinance have been made to apply, as far as practicable, solely to the regulations to be observed in respect to the introduction of immigrants; Ordinance No. 2 of 1853, (the Master and Servant's Ordinance) however, makes ample provision for the protection of the immigrants, in reference to any complaints or misunderstandings which may occur between them and their employers.

I do not consider it necessary to enlarge upon the matters embraced in this Ordinance, as no doubt anything which I could offer upon immigration generally will have been anticipated by your Excellency in your despatch to the Secretary of State upon the subject.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Robert R. Craig,*
To His Excellency the Governor. Attorney General.

Enclosure 3, in No. 7.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Proceedings of the Honourable Court of Policy of the Colony of British Guiana, at its Adjourned Assembly held at the Guiana Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara, Friday, 26 November 1853. Encl. 3, in No. 7.

[After prayers.]

HIS Excellency the Governor laid over the report of the committee of revision of the Immigration Ordinances, and the same being read,

F. I.

It was ordered that his Excellency the Governor be respectfully requested to instruct the Attorney-general to prepare and bring in the bills required to carry out the views of the committee.

(True extract.)
(signed) *W. Walker,* Sec.

BRITISH GUIANA.

TO His Excellency *Henry Barkly*, Esquire, Governor, &c. &c. &c., and the Honourable the Court of Policy of British Guiana.

The Report of the Committee appointed by your Honourable Court to "revise the Immigration Ordinances," and for consolidating the Laws relating to "Masters and Servants."

Respectfully sheweth,

That your reporters, after due consideration, have come to the conclusion of strongly recommending to your Honourable Court to consolidate all the laws merely regulating the mode and manner in which the immigration of all labourers is to be effected and conducted into one Ordinance, and that such Ordinance shall be exclusively confined to matters of regulation, such as the amount of bounty to be paid, the conditions necessary to insure a back passage, the appointment of all officers connected with the business of immigration, their duties and emoluments, the regulation of contracts of indenture, the allotment of immigrants, and stipulations to ensure their medical care and treatment, &c. &c. &c.

That your reporters further earnestly recommend to your Honourable Court the adoption of the Draft Ordinance herewith attached, and respectfully submitted by your committee, as the only Ordinance hereafter to regulate all matters relating to "the rights, duties, and relations of employers and servants," under the jurisdiction of the stipendiary and other magistrates throughout the colony, premising that this Draft Ordinance is principally taken from Ordinance No. 2 of 1848, which your committee respectfully submits is the best Ordinance on the subject ever published in this colony, and has given by far the most general satisfaction in its working to all the parties concerned.

That your reporters are well aware that the attempts made for the collection of monthly sums from the coolie immigrants, under Ordinance No. 21* of 1851, have given rise to general dissatisfaction and discontent among these people, as well as disapprobation among the planters; they would therefore recommend to your Honourable Court to abolish that tax on non-indentured coolies, and to do away with the distinction made in that Ordinance between new and old coolies; and that, in lieu thereof, it should be enacted, that all coolies brought here at the expense of the colony shall, on their arrival, be indentured to some estate or plantation for a period of not less than five years; and that all coolies now here, and whose first period of service has expired, and who have not renewed their indentures to some estate or plantation, shall be bound to do so, within such period as your Honourable Court may appoint, for a period of five years from the termination of their last indentures, and on their failing to do so, that they shall forfeit their right to a back passage at the expense of the colony; but they shall have the right to a back passage by paying in to the Receiver-general's office a sum of 50 dollars, within such time as your Honourable Court may appoint, and after such prescribed residence in the colony as your Honourable Court may consider reasonable.

* Page 164.

That your reporters take leave to bring under the notice of your Honourable Court the difficulty experienced by the magistracy in defining specifically what is meant by the words "industrial residence" in the Immigration Ordinances, and in order to prevent any misconstruction of these words, your reporters respectfully submit the necessity to have it defined in any further Ordinance on the subject what number of days' labour in every year is to be considered as "an industrial residence."

In conclusion, your reporters beg respectfully to state their clear conviction, that the distinct separation by only two Ordinances between all matters of mere regulation in the details of immigration, or connected therewith, and the judicial business relating to the "rights, duties, and relations" of employers and servants, will much simplify what has hitherto been considered somewhat complicated, and will tend greatly to a better understanding of the law, besides saving much trouble and confusion to the magistracy.

All which is respectfully submitted.

By request of the Committee,

(signed) *A. MacRae*,
Chairman.

Georgetown, 25 November 1852.

(True copy.)

W. Walker,
Secretary.

Sir, Guiana Public Buildings, 15 October 1852.

THE committee appointed to revise the Immigration Ordinances, before proceeding in their revision, respectfully request that the Governor will be pleased to order the various stipendiary magistrates to report to his Excellency any objections which they may have to offer to any

any of the clauses in the said Ordinances now in force, as well as relating to the Master and Servant's Ordinance, in order that the same may be laid before the committee, for their guidance in drawing up a final report.

By order of the Committee,
(signed) *A. Mac Rae*, Chairman.

The Honourable William Walker,
Government Secretary,
&c. &c. &c.

(A true copy)
(signed) *J. Gardiner Austin*,
A. Gov. Sec.

10 February 1853.

[These reports being very voluminous, only two have been selected, as coming from magistrates of considerable experience; the one from the county of Demerara, and the other from Berbice.]

Stipendiary Magistrate's Office, District (D.),
15 November 1852.

Sir,

In compliance with the request contained in your communication, No. 737, dated 15th October 1852, in reference to the revision of the Master and Servant, as well as to the Immigration Ordinances, I would respectfully observe, that with the exception of a few clauses in the first-named Ordinance, which seem to me might be omitted, I do not consider that this Ordinance requires any amendment, as its provisions are sufficiently stringent and equitable, if the true intent and meaning of them are carried into effect. The clauses I have alluded to in the Master and Servant Ordinance, viz., 12, 17, 23, 26, 27 form part of the present Immigration Ordinances, and of Ordinance No. 30, 1850, and merely refer to the mode of recovering penalties, and to contracts of services entered into elsewhere than in the colony, and to their durations, all of which is provided for by the existing Immigration Ordinances.

With reference to the Immigration Ordinances, which the magistrates have had so much difficulty in putting into anything like practical operation, I would observe that Ordinance 20, 1851, embodies all that is necessary for the introduction of immigrants, and those clauses which bear upon these points might remain as they are; but the tax imposed under this and the Coolie Ordinance appears to me objectionable and should be abolished, as independent of the great difficulty of collecting the tax, the imposition of it is likely to lead to dissatisfaction amongst those liable for the payment of it.

Sections 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, of the Coolie Ordinance, have reference to the payment of monthly sums, and to the mode in which they are to be recovered; those sums, as I before stated, should be done away with, and every coolie or immigrant brought to the colony at the public expense should be compelled to enter into a contract for a certain number of years to serve some planter; and should a return passage be one of the stipulations, he should be required, at the expiration of his indenture, to adduce satisfactory proof that his residence in the colony has been an industrial one, otherwise he should forfeit his right to the option of being sent back to the country from whence he came, or to the pecuniary consideration now given for a protracted sojourn in the colony.

Another difficulty the magistrates have had to contend with, is not having been able to enforce the contracts entered into by the coolies, owing to the leniency of punishment for desertion prescribed under the Coolie Ordinance. This is an evil which has been seriously felt, and has led to habits of indolence and wandering.

To remedy this state of things, I would suggest that any immigrant, without reference to class, who should be guilty of any violation of contract, or committing any of the offences set forth in the Master and Servant Ordinance (No. 2, 1848), should be amenable in the same manner as any labourer not under a written obligation to serve who might render himself liable to punishment for any infraction of this Ordinance.

I would further suggest that it would be an advantage if the Master and Servant and Immigration Ordinances, as far as relates to the respective obligations of employer and employed, as well as to the enforcement of the contracts, were consolidated, and that one general law, based upon these Ordinances, enacted, as it would tend to facilitate the performance of the duties of the magistrates appointed to carry its provisions into operation.

These few suggestions, though imperfectly drawn up, appear to me to be sufficient to make the indentured labourer more industrious than he has been, without rendering his contract oppressive or unfair.

I have, &c.,
(signed) *Walter Howard Ware*, S.M.

The Hon. William Walker,
&c. &c. &c.
Government Secretary.

(True copy.)
(signed) *W. Walker*, Secretary.

BRITISH GUIANA.

Stipendiary Magistrate's Office, District (D.),
29 September 1852.

Sir,

My attention of late has been drawn to the expense and trouble the employer of coolie immigrants is subject to, in consequence of the leniency of punishment laid down in section 24, Ordinance 21, 1851.

By this section of the Ordinance it appears that any coolie under indenture absenting himself from the service of his employer, without reasonable cause, shall forfeit the sum of four cents for each absent day, but the Ordinance is silent as to the mode in which this forfeiture is to be recovered, the only presumption being that it is to be deducted from any wages due or accruing to the coolie.

In many instances recently brought to my notice, a coolie to whom no wages were due has left the estate to which he is legally bound, and has proceeded to another district, and after some expense has been incurred by his employer in apprehending him is brought before the stipendiary magistrate. The magistrate, whose hands are in a measure tied, has only the power to direct a certain sum for the absent period to be paid by the coolie, and his return to the service of his employer.

A few days after the return to the estate he again absconds, and the employer is put to the same trouble and expense as before in bringing him back, and the magistrate, whose interference a second time is invoked, can merely repeat his previous order.

The irregular state of things has in one or two instances led to the employers becoming indifferent to the return of his labourer, as he very justly observes, that this line of conduct may be pursued by the immigrant over and over again, unless effective means are adopted to prevent its repetition.

In order to remedy this evil, I would respectfully propose, that as the Coolie Immigration Ordinance is, I understand, about to undergo revision, that the coolie who absents himself from the service of his employer, without reasonable cause, should be liable to the same pains and penalties as other immigrants, as set forth in section 28, Ordinance 20, 1851, and that the period of imprisonment, should he undergo any in default of payment of the penalty, as well as the time he may be absent, shall not count as part of his industrial residence.

I will thank you to lay this communication before his Excellency the Governor.

I have, &c.,

The Honourable William Walker,
Government Secretary.

(signed) *Walter H. Ware*, S.M.

(True copy.)

W. Walker, Secretary.

Office of the Pro Sheriff, New Amsterdam,
20 October 1852.

Sir,

I have had the honour to receive your circular of the 15th instant, on the subject of the Immigration Ordinances, and in reply beg respectfully to state that these Ordinances have been in operation for so short a time, their practical working so little tested, and matters upon the whole proceeding in my district so well under them, that I am not at present prepared to offer any lengthened suggestions with a view to their amendment.

Many of the clauses are, I admit, complicated, and some very stringent, but a prudent magistrate in carrying them into effect, will bear in mind that the object of these laws is to keep united the bonds which exist between master and servant, and not to sever them, and to promote the advantage of both; he will, therefore, always so regulate his decisions, that any seeming contradiction may be easily cleared up, and any unnecessary severity of punishment avoided.

The only alterations that at present occur to me to be necessary, I have annexed.

I have, &c.

The Honourable Willliam Walker,
Government Secretary.

(signed) *C. H. Strutt*, S.J.P.

(True copy.

(signed) *William Walker*, Secretary.

1. Ordinance No. 20, 1851.—Section 27 gives no discretionary power to the magistrate. If a case be made out, under this clause he must impose a penalty of 23 dollars, with costs. This might be altered advantageously.

2. Masters and Servants' Ordinance, 2, 1848.—The jurisdiction under this Ordinance might with safety be vested in one justice instead of being confined to two, as at present, much inconvenience and loss of time frequently occurring from the difficulty of obtaining a second justice. This point might be the more readily conceded, as under Ordinance 30, anno 1850, an appeal lies against the decision of any one justice, and this circumstance will always tend to keep things right.

BRITISH GUIANA.

No. 8.
Governor Barkly to the Duke of Newcastle.
11 February 1853.

—No. 8.—

(No. 24.)

Copy of a DESPATCH from Governor *Barkly* to His Grace the Duke of *Newcastle.*

Government House, 11 February 1853.

My Lord Duke, (Received, 22 March 1853.)

By the passing of Ordinance No. 3 of 1853,* reported on in my despatch of this date, No. 21, the several proclamations fixing rates of bounty for the introduction of immigrants from various ports were rendered null and void, Ordinance 22† of 1851, under which they were issued, being therein repealed; and it became necessary, therefore, to publish a fresh proclamation, of which I have now the honour to enclose copies.

* *See* Appendix, p. 174.

† *See* Appendix, p. 169.

No alteration has been made, except as regards the reduced bounty on Chinese immigrants, which is to be withdrawn altogether, as far as the public generally is concerned, after the 31st of July next; the immigration from China being conducted after that date solely in vessels specially chartered for the service by the agent, Mr. White, or by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners.

I am glad that the Court of Policy thus at length concurred in my recommendations on this subject, which I am confident will obviate, as I pointed out in my despatch of 24th ult., No. 8,‡ most of the evils which experience has too clearly shown to result from leaving such a service to so-called private enterprise.

‡ Page 9.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Henry Barkly.*

Enclosure in No. 8.

West Indies.—British Guiana.

Proclamation.

Encl. in No. 8.

By his Excellency *Henry Barkly*, Esquire, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Colony of *British Guiana*, Vice-Admiral and Ordinary of the same, &c. &c. &c.

By virtue of the power and authority vested in me, Henry Barkly, Esquire, Governor of the colony of British Guiana, by Ordinance No. 3, of the year 1853, intituled, "An Ordinance to repeal certain Ordinances now in force for the regulation and encouragement of immigration into this colony, and to make other provisions in lieu thereof:"

And in pursuance of a resolution of the Honourable the Court of Policy of the 31st January 1853:

I do, by this my proclamation, name the ports or places from which immigrants may be introduced into this colony, and the rates of bounties to be allowed for such introduction of immigrants, under and subject to the provisions of said Ordinance, to be as follows:—

Names of ports or places from which immigrants may be introduced into the colony, and rates of bounties allowed for the introduction of immigrants:

	$.
Madeira	25
Azores or Western Islands	25
Canary and Cape de Verd Islands	25
Curacoa	20
Margarita and Spanish Main	20
St. Helena	25
Sierra Leone	25
Brazil	25
Havanna	30
United States of America and British North America	30
China or Chinese from any port east of Point de Galle in Ceylon, imported on board any vessel which shall clear for this colony prior to the 31st day of March 1853	100
China or Chinese from any port east of Point de Galle in Ceylon, imported on board any vessel which shall clear for this colony between the 31st day of March and the 31st day of July 1853 (at which latter date all bounty will cease, except in vessels chartered on account of the colony)	80

Given under my hand and seal of office, at the Guiana Public Buildings, in Georgetown, Demerary, this 2d day of February 1853, and in the 16th year of Her Majesty's reign.

God save the Queen!

By his Excellency's command,

William Walker,
Government Secretary.

BRITISH GUIANA.

—No. 9.—

(No. 32.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Barkly* to His Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*.

No. 9.
Governor Barkly to the Duke of Newcastle.
26 February 1853.
Despatch of 24 Jan., No. 8.
Page 9.

Government House, 26 February 1853.

My Lord Duke, (Received, 4 April 1853.)

IN reporting the arrival of the "Glentanner" and "Lord Elgin" with the first Chinese immigrants ever brought to this colony, I reserved the expression of any deliberate opinion as to their comparative efficiency as agricultural labourers until I should have longer and better opportunities for inquiry and observation.

2. I have accordingly since availed myself of every means at my command to ascertain the views of medical men as to their constitutions, of magistrates as to the docility of their dispositions, and of planters as to their habits of industry; and having spent a day in visiting the plantations on which they are located, inspecting the healthy in their cottages, the sick in the hospitals, and having gone through the pay lists to see the amount of their earnings during the few weeks of their residence, I am happy to state that I feel myself justified in confirming the somewhat sanguine impression which I have from the first communicated to Her Majesty's Government, of the probable value and importance of this new source of future immigration to British Guiana.

3. Debilitated by sickness and privation during their tedious voyage hither, as were most of the immigrants alluded to, it might have been anticipated that they would prove peculiarly susceptible of the intermittent fever and ague so common in this country, or even of the epidemic fever, which still continues its ravages among those of European origin newly arrived; but the report of the surgeon-general shows that out of 29 invalids admitted on arrival to the public hospital, a single case of each type has alone been exhibited; whilst the recovery of the man who caught the yellow fever, who as yet forms the solitary exception to the three hundred and odd other immigrants, corroborates, as Dr. Blair observes, the idea, that the vital organism of the Chinese is exceedingly strong. His estimate that double the mortality would have occurred among Africans or coolies exposed to equal hardships, was more than confirmed to me by the opinions of the medical men who have attended those who were sent to the estates on the other side of the River Demerara; one and all the managers, moreover, agreeing that the proportion of the whole who had complained in any way of sickness was not half what it usually was during the first month or two of the acclimatisation even of Calcutta coolies.

Enclosure, No. 1.

4. Although, therefore, Dr. Blair's concluding remarks as to selecting Chinese immigrants from such districts of that vast empire as most closely resemble this country in climate and geology, are worthy of attention, there does not appear to be much danger in continuing the present immigration from Amoy, whilst it must not be forgotten than a change from that extra-tropical and hilly locality to the banks of the river on which Canton is situated, south of the tropic line, would materially complicate and enhance the difficulties arising from the want of interpreters, the natives of these two places being unintelligible to each other in conversation, from their different mode of pronunciation, though using a common language, and writing the words precisely in the same way.

5. In regard to the second point—the tractability of Chinese labourers—much difference of opinion prevails among those who have had the best opportunities of judging. The Dutch government in Java, down to the most recent period, have been engaged in sanguinary struggles with the Chinese settlers in that island. The Mauritius planters were very glad to be quit of the party introduced there a few years ago; the captains of the vessels employed in transporting them display trepidation and alarm.

On the other hand, Dr. Bowring, acting superintendent of trade in China, who has been so obliging as to communicate his views on the subject of this immigration under cover of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, represents them "as of all people in the world most easily managed, if managed according to their own habits, education, and usages; but not to be safely dealt with by any despotism ignorant of their thoughts and feelings."

6. Probably the last clause explains the cause of the failures and even terrible catastrophes known to have occurred, but it hardly can suffice to relieve me from anxiety in regard to the preservation of order among a people, of whom we cannot possibly expect to acquire a competent knowledge for several years to come. My best exertions will of course be directed, however, to the study of the Chinese character,

character, with a view to conducting this experiment to a successful issue; and I am the more sanguine as to the practicability of managing them from an occurrence which at first inclined me to come to an opposite conclusion.

7. This occurrence was brought to my notice by a report from the stipendiary magistrate of the district, Mr. Ware, who informed me that a serious affray had taken place between the Chinese immigrants located on plantation "Blankenburg," and the emancipated negroes inhabiting the adjacent freehold village of "Den Amstell," and that he was greatly at a loss how to conduct the proceedings, upon a charge brought in consequence against six of the former who had been taken into custody by the police, owing to the want of any interpreter competent to translate the evidence from English into Chinese, or *vice versâ*, the best of the number yet arrived scarcely comprehending the commonest sentence in the former language.

8. Convinced of the necessity of nipping such quarrels in the bud, I at once determined to repair to the spot, and be present with as much official display as was convenient at Mr. Ware's investigation, to facilitate which I requested the attendance of Dr. David Shier. who had accompanied these Chinese as surgeon to the "Lord Elgin," and who understands their language when spoken, though not himself able to converse fluently in it.

9. A very painstaking and searching inquiry accordingly took place in my presence, with the details of which I will not trouble your Grace any further than to mention, that as it appeared clear that the conduct of the Chinese, after the first dispute between one of their number and one of the villagers, which it seemed probable originated in their ignorance of each other's intentions and language, had been marked by great violence, and a formidable spirit of combination, which but for the presence of mind of the manager of the plantation, and the firmness of three policemen, whom he summoned to his aid from the nearest station, must have led to bloodshed, the six ringleaders were sentenced to a month's hard labour each in Georgetown gaol.

10. My object, however, is rather to advert to the great deference to constituted authority, exhibited by the Chinese throughout these transactions, 30 or 40 of them, in the first instance, laying down their weapons, and allowing a part of their number to be arrested, by a few unarmed policemen of the very race and colour for which they had previously shown such extreme contempt as to attack, at least, 600 arrayed for the defence of the village, whilst the orderliness of their behaviour was even more strongly shown on the occasion of my visit; as large a number as the room in which the inquiry was held would accommodate being admitted, and listening with grave attention to the evidence *pro* and *con*, as translated into Chinese, or repeating it from time to time to their countrymen who surrounded the house. Finally, though the six men convicted were conducted back for the night to the station-house, and marched publicly along the high road next day to gaol, under the escort of the same three policemen, not the least sign of turbulence was manifested.

11. I am encouraged to hope, therefore, that this example will prevent any further disturbance of the public peace, particularly as I endeavoured to explain to them the proper mode of obtaining redress for any grievance they might suppose themselves suffering under, and also enjoined upon the negroes patience and forbearance towards them, which was readily promised, accompanied by an assurance that they considered them more "respectable" than the Indian coolies, and should be glad to live on good terms with them.

12. With respect to the remaining point, their efficiency in labour, it might almost suffice to say that the six set to break stones within the goal, accomplish a far larger amount of work in the allotted hours than has ever previously been got out of either negroes, Portuguese, or coolies; but I can also bear personal testimony to the general approbation expressed of them as labourers in sugar cultivation by all the planters who have yet had to do with them, corroborated by the material fact of the large earnings to which they had entitled themselves in addition to their keep.

13. Their houses were a model of cleanliness and comfort, and they were described to me as distinguished by singular decorum and good breeding in their deportment towards each other, never beginning their meals until all were ready, and then dividing the food given them into equal portions before any one commenced eating. They display their imitative tendencies in a most extraordinary way, several of them having attended a neighbouring missionary chapel on the

BRITISH GUIANA.

Sabbath, and gone through the whole service as if they understood it, kneeling, sitting, or standing with the rest of the congregation. They have likewise purchased already several articles of European attire, and seem disposed, unlike the natives of India, to spend their money very freely in such things, or even in mere luxuries and dainties.

14. On the whole I am so strongly convinced that the Chinese possess the energy and intelligence attributed to them, joined with a power of enduring the rays of the tropical sun, which the natives of Madeira, who have done so much towards the prosperity and progress of society in this colony, can unfortunately never be said to attain, or we should not have to go further for a suitable population, that I perceive with very great regret that it is Dr. Bowring's opinion that the emigration from that country to the West Indies will not proceed at the rapid rate anticipated, and that it will moreover be next to impossible to domiciliate the Chinese with wives and families in a foreign land.

15. Time alone can, however, satisfactorily solve these questions, and be the obstacles what they may, I venture respectfully to hope that I have said enough to induce Her Majesty's Government to do all in their power to promote an undertaking so largely conducive to the benefit of all concerned. Dr. Bowring's statement "that rice is an inaccessible luxury to hundreds of thousands," being far surpassed by what Dr. David Shier told me, on the authority of parties resident at Amoy, namely, that in years of scarcity one-eighth of the population of that immense city perished, their places being filled up from the surrounding country so rapidly that not the slightest change was presented in the aspect of the place.

16. Compared to such wholesale waste of human existence, the mortality incidental to the passage hither, could it even not be reduced to an ordinary average, by the employment of larger ships and the introduction of improved arrangements, sinks into utter insignificance.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Henry Barkly.*

Enclosure in No. 9.

Enclosure in No. 9.

To his Excellency Governor *Barkly.*

Your Excellency,

I HAVE the honour to enclose for your Excellency's information a tabular statement of the admission of Chinese immigrants into the Colonial Hospital. It will be perceived that the number admitted have been twenty-nine (29), out of whom 10 have died; three are still dangerously ill. But such was the severity of the cases on admission, that the mortality must be considered as low, even should the three cases referred to terminate unfavourably.

I feel convinced that had similar grades of illness occurred among coolie immigrants or liberated Africans, the mortality would have been double. I therefore entertain a very favourable opinion of the constitutional power of the Chinese immigrants.

It is not unlikely that the Chinese boy (whose name we could not discover, and who is designated as No. 4) brought his intermittent fever with him to the colony. "Goh Pi," who had been, for a few days before admission, at Plantation Klyn Poudereyn, as will be seen by the table, suffered from an attack of yellow fever in its virulent form, as a consecutive disease. Considering the short period of exposure, this occurrence leads to the inference, that the Chinese immigrants have no exemption from our epidemic influences. But still the recovery of "Goh Pi" from so severe an attack corroborates the notion, that the organism of the Chinese labourer is strong, and possesses much vital resistance; of course, from such very limited experience as we yet possess on this subject, the conclusions can be provisional only. I would respectfully suggest to your Excellency, that if the Chinese immigration be continued, the immigrants should be chosen from such districts of country as closely resembles this colony in climate and geology. It is probable that the superiority of Calcutta over the Madras coolies in adaptability to our wants, is due to conditions of this nature.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Daniel Blair,* M.D.,
Surgeon-General.

—No. 10.—

BRITISH GUIANA.

No. 10.
Governor Barkly to the Duke of Newcastle.
10 March 1853.

— No. 10. —

(No. 38.)

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Governor *Barkly* to His Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*; dated Government House, 10 March 1853.

(Received, 4 April 1853.)

"THE arrangement affirmed by a large majority of elective members is in effect, that one moiety of the cost of future immigration shall be provided upon the annual estimate out of taxes levied upon the public at large, in consideration of the general benefits to which an increased population necessarily gives rise, the other moiety being borne exclusively by the planters; the export tax now levied upon their produce being set apart at its present low rate for the purpose, and the remainder being made up by a direct payment from those on whose estates immigrants are located, secured by a preferrent lien, upon the principle of the advances authorised by the Drainage Loan Acts of Great Britain, so as not to deprive the poor class of planters of the opportunity of improving and extending their cultivation.

"I apprehend little difficulty will arise in carrying this arrangement into practical effect, and in providing under it sufficient money to defray from time to time the expenses of introducing 4,000 immigrants annually, as contemplated in the first resolution. And as 50,000 *l.* of the guaranteed loan still remains to be raised, a considerable portion of which will not be wanted for the immigration of 1853, whilst funds for future immigration will meantime be accumulating here, I trust that the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners will not hesitate, though the details are yet somewhat immature, to adopt at once the necessary steps for chartering vessels for the conveyance of immigrants, both from India and China, during the ensuing season, the Combined Court being anxious, as will be seen from their subsequent resolutions, to procure 2,500 from the former and 1,500 from the latter country, including, in both cases, as large a proportion of women as may be practicable.

"It is my duty further, in compliance with the request made to me, to move your Grace to cause communications to be opened with the Government of the Netherlands, with a view of ascertaining whether Chinese, or half-bred Chinese, would be allowed to be brought from Java here. I am not myself sanguine as to the result of such an application, did Her Majesty's Government feel at liberty to make it; but it will be observed from a report of the debate in the Combined Court, which I enclose, that the suggestion emanates from a gentleman whom I have several times mentioned as being well acquainted with the views of the authorities in the island in question, and it was, I believe, recommended to him by correspondents in Holland, who conceive that no obstacles would be interposed, and that such an immigration may possibly ere long be set on foot to the adjacent colony of Surinam.

Enclosure in No. 10.

The following Resolutions were proposed by Mr. Gon Netscher, and adopted:—

"THAT his Excellency the Governor be requested to move the Secretary for the Colonies to take the necessary steps in order to ascertain whether the Dutch government will allow emigration of Chinese, or half-bred Chinese, from Java, to the amount of 3,000 per annum, two-thirds males and one-third females; the voyage from Java being but half of that from Amoy, and the climate of the island the same as that of this colony, consequently the people are better adapted for our purpose; but, in the meantime, that Mr. White be authorised to take steps for the introduction of 1,500 Chinese from China." Encl. in No. 10.

BRITISH GUIANA.

No. 11.
Governor Barkly to the Duke of Newcastle.
12 March 1853.

— No. 11. —

(No. 41.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Barkly* to His Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*.

Government House, 12 March 1853.
(Received 23 April 1853.)
(Answered, No. 54, 26 May 1853, page 118.)

My Lord Duke,

I HAVE the honour to announce the arrival of a third ship, the "Samuel Boddington," with Chinese immigrants from Amoy, and am sorry to state, that though the voyage was a very rapid one, occupying only 98 days, the mortality, as will be seen from the health officer's report, amounted to 11 per cent.

Enclosure 1.

2. In his opinion this excessive mortality mainly arose from the cessation of the supply of opium to men whose habitual immoderate use of that drug had rendered it essential for the prevention of diarrhœa, and it is clear that if this immigration is to be continued to British colonies, all who are known to be addicted to such a vice must be, as I pointed out in my first despatch upon the subject, rigorously excluded from embarkation.

3. The surgeon in charge, who quite agrees in this view, cannot be held at all responsible for the neglect of the precaution in the present instance, as the very interesting extracts from his journal, forwarded by the health officer, prove that his efforts to enforce a proper selection of immigrants were frustrated by the consignees selected by Messrs. Hyde, Hodge, & Co's. agents at Canton, who insisted on shipping no less than 150 whom he had on examination rejected.

Encl. 2, page 41.

4. Dr. Ely's journal indeed discloses such a system of procuring and embarking immigrants, and so disgusting and alarming a state of things during the voyage, that nothing but the conviction which I entertain, that the stoppage of the bounty and the intervention of Mr. White, will, so far as emigration to this colony and Trinidad are concerned, put a stop to these evils, would induce me to refrain from urging Her Majesty's Government to prevent the continuance of the experiment.

* See page 47.
Enclosure 4.

5. So soon as I learnt from the report of the Immigration* Agent-general that a considerable excess of passengers had been embarked at Amoy, I directed the Attorney-general to commence proceedings under the Act of Parliament. At the very outset, however, serious difficulties presented themselves. In the first place, it seemed doubtful whether such a voyage came under the provisions of the British Passengers' Act, which defines (sect. 83) colonial voyages to signify "any voyage from any port or place within any of Her Majesty's possessions to any port or place whatever." In the second place the master alone is liable for the penalty, but had he in this case been committed to gaol for nonpayment, the really guilty parties, —the agents of Hyde, Hodge, & Co., by whom the vessel was chartered, at Canton, to carry Chinese to the West Indies at 10 *l.* per head,—would have altogether escaped.

6. The great difficulty of all, however, arose from the impossibility of proving the number actually embarked at Amoy, except from the evidence of the master himself, for the port clearance was in the Chinese character, and although he at first alleged that he had a clearance or licence from the British Vice Consul at that port, he declined to produce it when challenged so to do. It is true that the surgeon was available as a witness, but here a new question was sure to be started, for it will be observed that the number of deaths recorded in his journal is only 40, whereas the deficiency reported, according to the health officer's account, is 52, the difference consisting of a certain number "supposed to have jumped overboard."

7. Dr. Ely admits, on the other hand, that the tally of the immigrants taken on board from time to time during their stay at Amoy, was not checked by actual enumeration, until they had been many days at sea, and as it does not appear that any one was seen to throw himself overboard, with the exception of a man in the last stage of disease, who is included among the "dead," though two other unsuccessful attempts are mentioned, I would fain hope that this discrepancy originates

BRITISH GUIANA.

originates in a mistake, and that the full extent of loss of life is comprehended in the first statement.

8. At all events, as the master and his officers vehemently denied any occurrence of the kind, it would have been impossible to get a conviction on such slender evidence, and the consignee of the vessel having offered,* in consequence of the Attorney-general's complaint, to plead guilty to an excess of 40 immigrants under the tonnage check, and to give bond on behalf of the owners in London for the minimum penalty of 2 *l.* per head, should the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners think fit to enforce it, I deemed it best to accept this compromise, and trust my having done so under the circumstances above narrated will be approved.

* *See page 47.*
Enclosure, No. 5.

Had the Attorney-general proceeded to establish the excess according to the superficial dimensions of the decks, the question would have hinged mainly upon whether 12 feet or 15 feet was to be appropriated to each immigrant, and I therefore preferred going upon the tonnage.

9. It seemed doubtful whether, under the proclamation published, I could withhold payment of bounty for any immigrant, capable of agricultural labour, landed alive in the colony, but I felt it my duty to ascertain that all those in the "Samuel Boddington" did fairly come within this category, and two experienced planters were in consequence appointed to inspect the people, of whom they reported† favourably.

10. The only interpreter was a boy speaking but a few words of English, and I had therefore no alternative but to send these immigrants to the same district as the former arrivals of Chinese had gone to, so as to have the benefit of the services of the more competent interpreters already located there.

† *See page 49.*
Enclosure, No. 6.

11. In conclusion, there is one point adverted to in Dr. Ely's Journal, which will scarcely bear to be enlarged upon, but which it would be false delicacy altogether to ignore, especially as it confirms the urgent necessity of procuring at the earliest possible period a certain proportion of Chinese women for this colony.

12. So much uncertainty has hitherto prevailed as to the practicability of procuring them, that I was glad to receive a communication from Dr. Ely, of which I enclose copy,‡ offering to undertake himself to introduce at least 600 early next year. To explain this I should add, that besides his medical diploma, this gentleman is United States Consul at Bombay, and partner in an American house there, engaged, as he makes no secret, in the opium trade, in the course of which he has seen more than most people of the less frequented ports and villages on the Chinese coast, and acquired considerable knowledge both of the language and ideas of the people.

‡ *See page 49.*
Enclosure, No. 7.

13. Not feeling at liberty to enter into a contract with Dr. Ely in terms of his offer, he has, by my advice, entrusted to my care a tender§ for transmission to the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, which I beg leave to recommend to their consideration.

§ *See page 50.*
Enclosure, No. 8.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Henry Barkly.*

18 March 1853.

Postscript.—Mr. Humphrys having been applied to, to explain some discrepancy in his first report of the superficial dimensions of the deck, has sent in the accompanying extra report,‖ showing that there was, in addition to the 'tween decks, a forecastle, on which some of the immigrants were berthed. As regards his allusion to an Ordinance of 1848, authorising three immigrants to every five tons, I can only say that I am not aware that the colonial law was then, or at any other time, at variance with the imperial statutes, always excepting immigrants from Madeira.

‖ *See page 51.*
Enclosure, No. 9.

Henry Barkly.

BRITISH GUIANA.

Enclosure 1, in No. 11.

Encl. 1, in No. 11.

Port of Georgetown, Demerara,
9 March 1853.

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT of Immigrants by the Ship "Samuel Boddington," which arrived here on the 4th inst., 96 days from *Amoy*, having touched at *St. Helena* on the 6th February.

Master's Name -	John W. Hurst.	Number of Crew - -	28
Surgeon's Name -	Edward Ely.	Registered Tonnage - -	669
Quarantine -	None.	Passengers' Deck feet by	feet.

NUMERAL LIST.

EMIGRANTS.	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	INFANTS. M.	INFANTS. F.	TOTAL.
Embarked on the 23 Nov. 1852 - - - -	352	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	352
Died on the Voyage - -	41	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	41
Jumped Overboard - -	11 supposed	-	- -	- -	- -	- -	11
Arrived in Port - -	300	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	300.
For Hospital - - -	29	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	29
For Immediate Distribution	271	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -	271

CONDENSATION of SURGEON'S WEEKLY ABSTRACTS.

For the information usually in this Form, *see* the "Abstract of the Medical Journal," already furnished to his Excellency.

GENERAL ABSTRACT of SURGEON'S JOURNAL.

Same observation applies to this Form.

DEATH LIST.

Died on the voyage 41, but no names are given.

HOSPITAL LIST.

As above; no names are given; total, 29 men.

SUMMARY.

Gross Number of Emigrants embarked - - - - -	352.
Total Number Sick, as per General Abstract - - - -	?
Total Number of Deaths - - - - - - - -	52.
Per Centage of Deaths to Number embarked - - - -	14·46.
Per Centage of Deaths to Cases of Sickness - - - -	?
Daily Average of People Sick - 36; Per Centage thereof,	10·22.
Highest Number Sick in any one day - - - - -	38.
Lowest Number ditto - ditto - - - - - -	—

GENERAL REMARKS on Surgeon's Diary and Journal, Provisions, Water, Vessel, &c. &c.

The Abstract of the Surgeon's Journal, already furnished to his Excellency, shows the manner in which the Journals have been kept.

The provisions are all apparently of good quality but of one article, which the Chinese are said to be very fond of, I have no experience, viz. salted shark.

Water good. Vessel clean and well ventilated.

(signed) *John M. Johnstone*,
Health Officer.

Enclosure 2, in No. 11.

ABSTRACT of the Surgeon's Journal of Proceedings on Board the Ship "Samuel Boddington," during a voyage from *China* to *Demerara*. August 1852 to March 1853.

1852:

Augt. 28.—Dr. Ely went on board the ship "Samuel Boddington," at Whampoa, to go to Amoy for emigrants.

Sept. 5.—Sailed for Amoy; medicines furnished in less quantities than ordered, and of inferior quality.

Sept. 12.—Arrived at Amoy, and found many vessels there waiting for cargoes of coolies for Sydney, West Coast of America, and the Spanish West India Islands.

"Oct. 21.—We have now been laying here (Amoy) 49 days; I almost despair of ever getting a cargo for Demerara; five ships have been despatched with full cargoes, but we are still put off, although nine days upon demurrage. There are two gentlemen, Spanish agents, from Havanna, staying at Tait & Co.'s, who seem to possess sufficient influence to have all their ships despatched at once. I attribute our delay to this cause."

Nov. 10.—This day being the 59th since the arrival of the ship at Amoy, and the 19th day, of demurrage, there have been ninety-five (95) coolies sent on board. These are the remnant of 215 which had been collected by Taits for us, but who, on being sent off to our ship without any European to look after them, compelled the Chinese crews of the boats they were in to run them ashore on the beach, where they made their escape. It appears that many of them who offer as coolies to go away, do so only for the purpose of obtaining a few days' food in the receiving ship; and, when they are to be sent away, take every means to escape. I cannot imagine why it is that Mr. Tait, knowing all this, did not, as has been his custom, place some Europeans in the boats to guard them.

"The small number we have received were those who were sent in the last boat, and are the worst lot which were on board the receiving-ship. I shall be obliged to reject more than half of them, but owing to the confusion to-day, I must defer it till another day. I shall endeavour to keep those who are ill, and have infectious diseases, as much as possible from those who are in good health."

"Nov. 11.—No prospect of any more coolies for some time; I am very much vexed at what has occurred, the more so as all those who have escaped from the boats of Tait & Co. have gone to the Hongs of Syme and Muir to go to Havanna. We shall thus be burthened by a set of half-naked, half-starved men for a long time before our full complement can be collected. The weather is quite cold, and some of the coolies have nothing but a loose nankin jacket; some of them wish to go ashore, and (say?) that they were deceived by Messrs. Tait & Co.'s brokers. This evening two men endeavoured to swim ashore on some small boards, a distance of two miles, but the gig was lowered, and they were picked up almost exhausted."

"Nov. 12.—No more coolies; several cases of serious sickness; applied to Tait & Co. for clothes for the coolies, but can get none; they saying that it is the place of the coolie brokers to furnish them with clothes here."

"Nov. 13.—Messrs. Tait & Co. sent on board 104 coolies, without either now or previously having given either myself or Captain Hurst notice of their coming. More than half of the 200 men we have on board are unfit for the purpose they are intended, and still we are having them thrust aboard whether we wish it or not."

"Nov. 14.—No more coolies; many cases of sickness."

"Nov. 15.—Five coolies sent on board and one taken out, who had been brought when in a state of intoxication, and whose parents had demanded him of the mandarins."

"Nov. 16.—Ten coolies sent on board."

"Nov. 17.—Thirteen coolies sent this morning. I have to-day made a general examination of those on board, and find them as follows:—

"Healthy and able-bodied men - - -	131
"Infirm, incompetent, &c. &c. - - -	95
"TOTAL -	226

"Of the latter I sent 10 men ashore to Mr. Tait, in charge of the broker who brings off the men. They were unfit on account of the foul nature of their diseases to remain among so many men as we now have on board. The remainder I shall send away as soon as it shall be convenient to Messrs. Tait."

"Nov. 18.—Two coolies received; the weather is cold and stormy, and the men are still naked; many of them are suffering from catarrhs and inflammations, and still I cannot procure for them any clothing.

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[Here follows a short correspondence between Dr. Ely, the surgeon superintendent, and Messrs. Tait & Co.]

* * * * * * * * * *

Abstract of Journal resumed.

Nov. 19 and 20.—No more coolies. Cold and rainy weather.

Nov. 21.—Rainy day. At this rate I shall be obliged to reject a great many more men than I should otherwise, on account of colds and inflammation of lungs, contracted for want of clothes. I have been to-day to the coolie hong of Messrs. Syme, Muir & Co., and there I saw a number of those who escaped from Tait's boats on the 10th. Mr. Bradley, when I asked him the reason, gave no answer, only that "we pay for our coolies." It is my opinion, and that of every one else, that the escape on the 10th was a preconcerted measure among the merchants themselves. Tait & Co. have a large contract to supply a certain number of coolies to the Spanish agents in a certain time; they have employed Syme & Muir to assist them. * * * Mr. Mackay, of the firm of Tait & Co., told me this morning that they were afraid they should be able to get no more coolies for some weeks, and that I must not be too strict in my examination. Directly afterwards I was on board a Spanish ship, consigned to Tait, for coolies for the Havanna, and the surgeon informed me plainly, that they expected to get away in a week after our ship, and that Messrs. Tait had told them their coolies were all ready.

Nov. 22.—Dr. Ely receives a letter from Messrs. Tait and Co., wishing the medical examination of the coolies next day. In the afternoon Mr. Mackay tells Dr. Ely that in consequence of the city and country being "much disturbed," they could get no more coolies, and that those collected must either be taken, or they (Messrs. Tait) must throw up the charter.

Nov. 23.—One hundred and forty-seven coolies brought alongside; those already on board commenced heaving wood, pieces of iron bolts, belaying pins, &c. at the Europeans and coolie brokers, because they had been "kept so long without clothes or proper food." As soon as we had got things a little quiet, and the coolies allowed to come on board, I commenced the examination; and out of every ten men I inspected, six were in my opinion not of the kind to make good labourers. "Mr. Conolly continually told me that they could get no more coolies; that they had enough to make up our number on board, if I would not be so very strict; that I was rejecting excellent men, who only wanted a month's good provisions to regain their health, and that they should not pay for any men who might be deficient, because there were a great plenty to choose from.' Dr. Ely then overhauled the whole 365 men and boys, and found only

162 men
40 boys

TOTAL - - 202 capable of embarkation.

"Mr. Conolly now in plain terms told Captain Hurst and myself we had but one of two things to do; either take our complement out of the rejected numbers, or lose any recompense for a short shipment, as they, as agents of the charterers, considered they were quite good enough. Of course we could do nothing else than take them, and we have now on board 352 coolies, 150 of whom I had once rejected, and with whom I expect to have much trouble, and among whom I expect to have many deaths."

Then follows a complaint that proper medicines were not furnished, on the ground that they could not be had, although "their own brig, the 'Alligator,' brought from Hong Kong only a few days ago several well filled chests of medicines, intended no doubt for the ships going to Havanna without surgeons."

1852:

Then comes a grievous complaint of the want of clothing, two suits of thin cotton clothes for each person, and a mat to sleep upon, and a single cotton sheet to "last through all weathers."

Then a charge that the Chinese clerks plundered the coolies of ten out of the eleven dollars, which by their agreement they (the coolies) were entitled to.

Nov. 24.—"Amoy is in a state of great confusion and alarm." An army of armed Chinese had entered the city, killed several Europeans, &c. "We have not been able to get our supplies, and are going away without them."

The disturbance said to be caused by the coolie brokers having enraged the community by enticing some young men to leave home and go on board the coolie ships under false pretences.

Nov. 25.

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Nov. 25.—Sailed from Amoy. "I find we have more than a hundred opium smokers on board, and God only knows what is to become of them when their opium is exhausted. . . . . I have no interpreter; the one engaged effected his escape in the hurry of sailing. I have employed one of the coolies, who can speak a little English, to act as interpreter, but he can do very little good."

Nov. 26.—Warmer weather, but still very rough; got the people on deck with much difficulty.

Nov. 27.—Fine weather; no attempts at cooking yet; "to the few who want anything to eat we give biscuit; no cases requiring medicine."

Nov. 28.—Sunday. Two men fighting; one of them confined on the poop; many cases of indolent ulcers and scabies.

Nov. 29.—People arranged into messes of 10 men each; an opium smoker attacked with delirium tremens, in consequence of his stock being exhausted;

Nov. 30.—And died next day.

Dec. 1.—Warm and squally. Most of the people appear to have been impoverished; many of them now affected with fevers, diarrhœas, and diseases of the skin.

Dec. 5.—A desperate fight about a theft of some opium. In the afternoon the man who has been in irons, broke the lock, and escaped below; he was soon re-ironed. "We should not be so rigid with him, but he has been threatening to kill the one with whom he fought, jump overboard, &c."

Dec. 7.—Made the * Islands; one case of bilious fever and five cases of diarrhœa constitute the sick list; fine weather and smooth sea; coolies "almost constantly fighting furiously among themselves, and so reckless and savage, they use any weapon they can seize."

* So in copy.

Then come suspicions of a mutiny. A search was made for weapons, and there were found secreted in their bags "five heavy iron scrapers, two belaying pins, and billets of firewood, besides other articles which they had picked up about the decks, and secreted in their bags and on the ledges of the beams."

Dec. 8.—"The appearance of things on board is assuming rather a serious aspect. Last evening at eight o'clock, one of the young men of rather better stamp than the others came to me, and endeavoured to make me understand something very earnestly. From the few Chinese words I understand, and from his motions, I learned that the boy Jim was a bad man, and that he had plenty more men that were going to kill me and everybody else, and then run the ship ashore on some of these islands. All day to-day Jim has not come aft as usual, and has been with the gang I spoke of yesterday in earnest conference. . . . . We are all convinced that the coolies meditate taking the ship, but we can do nothing now but go well armed constantly."

Dec. 9.—Coolies mostly looking better; almost calm day; thermometer 86°; large tubs of water placed on deck, in which the people bathe very generally. "I am well convinced from the actions of all hands that a large party of coolies are only awaiting an opportunity of taking the ship."

10 P.M.—"This afternoon the boy Jim asked the serang if he and his lascars would remain neutral if the coolies were to rise upon the officers and European crew." And this said Jim promises several boxes of dollars on board to the lascars if they would take the ship back to Amoy, or run her ashore. The ship's cook has then a tale of persecution to disclose, because "he would not hand them out the knives belonging to the galley." "All hands are on deck; the fore braces are led aft upon the poop, and no one need go off except one or two to work ship. . . . . We would endeavour to get everybody below, and put the hatches on, but it is so hot that they would suffocate. We are all prepared in a moment to meet any outbreak that may occur."

Dec. 10.—"We have had an ugly day. During all last night, instead of the usual noise and the various lights, nothing could be heard but a suppressed whispering about the decks, and not a light was burned. We hung lanterns over the front of the poop, so that they lit up the main deck, leaving us in darkness; every thing remained quiet till about four in the morning, when one of the men reported a light close under the lee bow. . . . . We looked over the bows about a minute, and made the light to proceed from a Malay prow, when, upon turning round, we saw the whole port side of the main-deck full of men armed with wood, cook's choppers, and other things; we ran to the other side, which was clear, and before any one could come round the galley, long-boat, &c., we had reached the poop-deck." Why it is they did not rise "I cannot tell;" but "after looking at the prows and at ourselves, they went below, and under the forecastle."

"We passed Gaspar Island." Coolies down below, holding an earnest conversation. To inquiries they reply, "Pil-long," point to the land, and make "me understand exactly what I knew, that those on deck were watching an opportunity to murder us and run ashore."

BRITISH GUIANA.

1852:

Then comes a story of Jim's about a threatened mutiny and butchery. "To-night we were to have been butchered, at the time I was making my regular round below, by first killing me below, and then rushing upon the poop with whatever they could lay their hands upon, and by the force of numbers overpower the crew; they then intended to run the ship ashore on one of these islands, which they supposed to be China, rob her, and burn her." . . . . "This afternoon drifted within a mile of the reefs and rocks off Pulo. The anchor was let go immediately in 19 fathoms, and the sails clewed up."

Then comes a narrative of every man, *i.e.* sailor, being armed and stationed upon the poop. Mr. Easthorn and the Doctor, with half a dozen lascars, went forward with concealed weapons to the forecastle, and, "as usual," they "found the two men deep in a serious discussion. Presenting pistols at the head of each one, we suddenly seized them, and in spite of the desperate resistance of one of them, dragged them upon the poop. The affair was so quickly and silently done that they had no idea of anything of the kind till it was over, and their surrounding companions seemed so taken by surprise that they offered no remonstrance or resistance."

Then comes an account of their being placed in irons, and accusing Jim of "starting the plot." Jim seems "very much confused;" but as nothing is to be gained by punishing him, they are tacticians enough "never to let him know but what they think him entirely innocent."

Next comes a lecture "about the good country where they were going to, where they would be used well, and not made to work hard,".&c. "And also that if any disturbance was made on board, we should not do as we had now done, and risk our own lives to save theirs, but we should shoot down the actors without mercy; every one expressed his satisfaction," &c.

Doubts, however, are still recorded. "The greater part we have on board are quite savage, many of them never having seen a European before coming to Amoy to go away, and having as little idea of right and wrong as the wandering savages of the wildernesses of America. They are fierce, cunning, ill-natured, revengeful, and hypocritical; and we have far more to do to keep anything like order among them than if they were so many monkeys."

1853:

Jan. 1.—"This morning we found one man dead on the lower deck;" cause of death "supposed to be apoplexy."

Here also (p. 42) is entered a difference of opinion between the captain and surgeon as to the duties of the latter.

Jan. 2.—Sick list contains 37 patients.

Jan. 3.—This day 30 patients.

Jan. 4.—Twenty-seven patients and two deaths; one from diarrhœa, and the other from hemorrhage from the bowels; this latter "caused, I believe, from unnatural intercourse."

Jan. 5.—Another death from hemorrhage.

Jan. 6.—Thirty cases of sickness, and one death from diarrhœa.

Jan. 7.—Thirty-four cases of sickness, and one death as above.

Jan. 8.—Thirty-three on the sick list.

Jan. 9.—Thirty-five cases; latitude 25° south longitude, 56° east; 28 of the cases are diarrhœa.

Jan. 10.—Thirty-five cases.

Jan. 11.—Thirty-four cases; one death from peritonitis.

Jan. 12.—Case of intermittent fever, dead (No. 11.); also one opium smoker (diarrhœa) (No. 12).

Jan. 13.—No new cases.

Jan. 14.—"Two cases of diarrhœa died (Nos. 13 and 14); one man endeavoured to throw himself overboard, but was caught by a lascar."

Jan. 15.—"Captain Hurst has thought that emetics would have a good effect upon some of the cases."

"Yesterday I gave a man an emetic which he picked out as a suitable case, and he died this morning (No. 15)."

"We mustered, and counted everybody to-day, and find we have but 333 men on board; 15 have died, and the other four have at different times jumped into the sea when we have not seen them." . . . . . "My interpreter says that the men have jumped overboard, because they did not want to go away from Amoy."

Jan. 16.—Two deaths from diarrhœa (Nos. 16 and 17).

Jan. 17, 18, and 19.—"Going on much the same; no new cases. Made, 'Ram Head and Brazen Head,' on coast of Africa, 4 P.M., 19th."

Jan. 20.—One death from heart disease (No. 18).

1853: BRITISH GUIANA.

Jan. 21.—"One case of diarrhœa and prostration, which has resisted all remedies, and who seemed determined to die, and who was only prevented from drowning himself by being unable to get over the side;" died this evening (No. 19).

Jan. 22.—Heavy head sea. "One man broke his arm going down the ladder to the lower deck." "One case of inflammation of lungs, died to-day, caused by his persisting in lying on the wet deck without clothes (No. 20)."

Jan. 23.—Fine weather; thermometer, 72 degrees.

Jan. 24.—Case of diarrhœa and partial insanity, died (No. 21).

Jan. 25.—Thermometer, 68 degrees. Coolies suffering from cold.

Jan. 26.—Thirty-one on the sick list.

Jan. 27.—Passed the "Cape of Good Hope." Thirty-five on the sick list.

Jan. 28.—A boy died of worms (No. 22).

Jan. 29.—Thirty-four on the sick list. A case of diarrhœa died (No. 23). For an unnatural crime, a man and a boy received two dozen lashes, besides being well pitched.

Jan. 30 and 31.—No alteration in the sick list.

Feb. 1.—Thirty-eight on the sick list. "This morning we found a man lying dead upon the deck who had been in good health hitherto; he had marks of blows on his body, and the coolies (?) who slept near him said he fell down the hatchway in the night. A fall there could not have caused death, unless it was instant from injury to the spine; and I believe he has received his injuries from the coolies. We cannot, however, discover." He makes No. 24.

This evening another of the lingering cases of diarrhœa, a man about 30 years of age, died (No. 25).

Feb. 2.—Forty-one on the sick list; 25 cases of diarrhœa. "Many of these cases have been on hand ever since they exhausted their supply of opium." "One boy with worms died; I chanced to see the anus after death, and it was a complete and large syphilitic ulcer." (No. 26.)

The boy mentioned a few days ago as having been accidentally salivated, died this evening. (No. 27.)

Feb. 3.—"Very little alteration;" no new cases.

Feb. 4.—"Fine warm day; took the opportunity to give the lower deck a thorough good washing and holy-stoning; the third it has received since leaving Amoy; it is, however, dry holy-stoned every morning;" 41 cases on the sick list.

Feb. 5.—"One case of worms, died," (No. 28.); another chronic diarrhœa in evening (No. 29.); 40 cases on the sick list.

Feb. 6. Sunday.—Made the island of St. Helena at day-break; anchored off James Town at 10 A.M.; went ashore to see if I could get some more medicine; got everything I wanted except anthelmintics.

Feb. 7.—Lay all day taking in fresh water and vegetables for coolies; 35 tons water,* bags of potatoes, and 1,000 bundles of carrots; I deemed that we stood greatly in need of these articles, and Captain Hurst succeeded in exchanging some of the fat salt pork which we do not need for them; purchased medicine to the amount of† for which I have paid; during the afternoon I received a visit from Dr. Wilson, the colonial surgeon. "He expressed himself very much pleased with the order and regularity, and perfect cleanliness on board, in comparison to the state of the coolie ships he had seen recently."

Sailed from St. Helena at 7 P.M.

* So in copy.

† So in copy.

Feb. 8.—"Calm day and very warm; one of the poor wretches with chronic diarrhœa, who yesterday was on deck a great part of the day looking at the island, as soon as the ship sailed, laid down, and commenced crying; he died this morning. (No. 30.)" 37 cases of sickness on the list.

Feb. 9.—"Lost one case of gastritis." (No. 31.)

Feb. 10.—"One case of worms died" (No. 32.); 32 cases on the sick list, 22 of which are diarrhœa.

Feb. 11.—"One of the cooks died" (No. 33.); "also a case of paralysis" (No. 34).

Feb. 12.—"A case of diarrhœa lasting from Straits of Sunda died" (No. 35).

Feb. 13. Sunday—"Fine weather, growing warmer; mustered all the people and counted them."

"311 on board
35 deaths

346
352 first complement

6 missing.

Twenty-seven on the sick list.

Feb. 14 and 15.—No new cases.

Feb. 16.

BRITISH GUIANA.

1853:

Feb. 16.—Twenty-two on the sick list. "The generality of the coolies look much better and more lively than they have done. They are very fond of the potatoes we procured for them at St. Helena, and are also in high spirits of soon landing at their destination."

Feb. 17.—Twenty-three on the sick list.

Feb. 18.—"Case of diarrhœa on hand for the past six weeks died this evening (No. 36.); 21 on the sick list."

Feb. 19.—Twenty cases, 13 of which are diarrhœa.

Feb. 20, Sunday.—"Therm. 84°, hot and damp; crossed the equator at 11 A.M., long. 29° 40′; 21 cases of sickness."

Feb. 21.—Twenty-three cases, of which 11 are diarrhœa.

Feb. 22.—Sick list comprises:—

14	Cases Diarrhœa.
1	Gastritis.
1	Inflammation of Brain.
1	Convulsions.
6	Syphilis.
TOTAL - -	23

Feb. 23.—"Lost two men, one of diarrhœa (No. 37.), and one of inflammation of brain (No. 38.); three new cases of diarrhœa."

Feb. 24.—"Yesterday, every one on board was put upon five pints of water per man, it having been discovered that there were not more than 14 days' water in the ship at that allowance" * * * * * * * "Mr. Boys had never paid any attention to what he was doing; and had he been left three days longer we [illegible] water in the ship."

SICK LIST:

16	Cases	Diarrhœa.
7	„	Syphilis.
3	„	Diarrhœa.
1	„	Worms.
1	„	Nephritis.
TOTAL - -		28

Feb. 25.—Thirty cases of sickness.

Feb. 26.—Twenty-seven on the sick list.

Feb. 27.—"One death. One of the oldest and most obstinate cases of diarrhœa (No. 39.); 20 on the sick list."

Feb. 28.—Seventeen on the sick list.

"While we were at dinner this day one of the coolies who had been ill of diarrhœa, threw himself over board. He told the others, before he did so, that he feared to go ashore, because he could not work, and 'the mandarins would kill him.'" (No. 40.)

"At 4 P.M., another young man who had been in a quarrel below with some one, rushed upon deck, and climbing the rail, threw himself off. The fore top-mast studding sail boom brace and after guy caught him as he fell, which allowed time for one of our lascars to seize him before he disentangled himself; we brought him aft upon the poop, gave him two dozen for his attempt, and confined him to one of the guns; this is the way in which we have lost our men; they are the worst race of people I have ever met."

March 1.—Sick list:—

7	Diarrhœa.
4	Syphilis.
4	other diseases.
Total - -	15

besides some few trifling cases of diarrhœa, which I give an occasional dose of opium.

March 2.—Sixteen on the sick list.

March 3.—Case of hemorrhage from the lungs died this morning (No. 40). All but a few cases looking better.

March 4.—Friday morning made the Berbice lighthouse at 5 A.M., and Demerara light-ship at 10 A.M."

Enclosure 3, in No. 11.

Encl. 3, in No. 11.

Sir, Health Office, Demerara, 4 March 1853.

I HAVE the honour to state for the information of his Excellency, the Governor, that I this day visited the ship "Samuel Boddington," just arrived from Amoy, after 98 days' passage.

I find there were embarked from the 10th to the 23d November last, 352 male adults.

Of these there have died on board 40, making a mortality of 11 per cent.

Of those who have arrived 27 are now on their way to the Colonial Hospital, chiefly cases of diarrhœa and debility.

Both captain and surgeon report it a very troublesome matter to convey this class of immigrants, chiefly from their quarrelsome disposition and vile habits. Ten men, or possibly more, jumped overboard in a state of excitement from fighting. A few cases of bilious remittent fever occurred in the Straits of Sunda, but, generally speaking, the people are reported to have been healthy. As soon as their supply of opium was finished, diarrhœa commenced; and out of the 40 deaths that have occurred, upwards of 30 may be ascribed to the want of their usual immoderate quantity of that drug. As it is, upwards of two pounds of opium, eight pounds of laudanum, one pound of Dover's powder, and half a pound of the compound powder of chalk, the two latter medicines containing powdered opium in their composition, have been consumed in the treatment of diarrhœa. This checked the disease for a time; but so soon as the medicine was intermitted, the disease re-appeared.

Lime juice was not used in any part of the voyage. The surgeon was refused it, along with a number of other articles, such as vaccine lymph, sweet spirits of nitre, &c.

The provisions and water appeared quite good.

I have, &c.
(signed) *John M. Johnstone,*
Health Officer.

To the Honourable W. Walker,
Government Secretary, &c. &c. &c.,
British Guiana.

Enclosure 4, in No. 11.

Encl. 4, in No. 11.

Immigration Agent-General's Office,
6 March 1853.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report the arrival on the 4th instant, of the barque "Samuel Boddington," 98 days from Amoy, having touched at St. Helena, where she remained one day.

The ship left Amoy with 352 statute adults; if, therefore, the "Samuel Boddington" comes within the limits of the Imperial Passengers' Act, there were a greater proportion of persons placed on board than are allowed by the statute, and the commander has rendered himself liable to a penalty. *15 & 16 Vict. c. 44, s. 12.*

The ship is 669 tons and carries a crew of 31 men, and her measurement is $118\frac{1}{2} \times 28\frac{1}{2}$.

Under these circumstances I have the honour respectfully to request that the opinion of the attorney-general may be taken, as to whether the Imperial Passengers' Act applies to ships bringing Chinese from Amoy, as I consider it necessary that I should be instructed in the matter before taking the people out of the ship.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Wm. Humphrys,* I. A. G.

The Honourable W. Walker,
Government Secretary, &c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 5, in No. 11.

Encl. 5, in No. 11.

By his Excellency *Henry Barkly,* Esquire, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Colony of *British Guiana,* Vice-Admiral and Ordinary of the same, &c. &c. &c.

HENRY BARKLY.

THESE are to certify to all whom it doth or may concern, that James S. Hitzler, who has signed the annexed document, is a sworn clerk and notary public of the registrar's office of the counties of Demerara and Essequebo, in the colony of British Guiana, and that to all

BRITISH GUIANA.

all acts so signed by him in his aforesaid capacity, full faith and credit is and ought to be given in judicature and thereout.

Given under my hand and seal, at the Guiana Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara, this 24th day of March 1853, and in the 16th year of Her Majesty's reign.

By his Excellency's command,

W. Walker, Secretary.

Fees to be charged to the Colony,
W. W.
Nil.

Gerard Oudvink,
For *F. A.*

G. G. Lowenfeld, Receiver-General.

(Security.)

Not. Dep., Sch. B., No. 26,207.

Fees, seven dollars.

Received, *G. G. Lowenfeld*,
Colonial Receiver-General.

BRITISH GUIANA, County of *Demerary*.

BEFORE me, James Shanks Hitzler, sworn clerk and notary public of the registrar's office of the counties of Demerary and Essequebo, in the colony of British Guiana, personally appeared Colin Simson, an inhabitant of the county of Demerary aforesaid, in his quality as consignee and agent in this colony of Richard Davis and Thomas Boddington, the younger, both of the city of London, trading under the style and firm of Boddington & Company, owners of the British ship called the "Samuel Boddington," now at anchor in the port of Georgetown, in the colony aforesaid, which appearer stated and declared that the said ship or vessel arrived at this port on or about the fourth day of the present month of March, having sailed from Amoy, in China, on or about the 26th day of November 1852, with, as was then supposed, 352 adult immigrants on board, in addition to the master, surgeon, and crew, to the number of 30, making the total estimated number of 382 persons.

And the appearer further stated that the registered tonnage said ship or vessel being 669⅔ tons, the owners of the said ship or vessel had become liable, under the 12th section of the Act of Parliament of the 15th and 16th Vict., c. 44, to a minimum penalty of 2*l.* sterling each person for an excess of persons or passengers over the number proportionate to the tonnage of the said ship or vessel, as prescribed and limited by the said 12th section of the aforesaid Act of Parliament.

That he, the appearer, as agent aforesaid, had therefore admitted and acknowledged to the Government of this colony an excess of persons or passengers over the number proportionate to the tonnage of said ship or vessel to the number of 40 persons or passengers, and had also admitted and acknowledged a liability and responsibility on the part of the said ship or vessel, and of the said Richard Davis and Thomas Boddington, the younger, as owners thereof, for the minimum sum of 80*l.* sterling for the aforesaid excess and breach of said Act of Parliament.

And the appearer further stated that it had been agreed on the part of the Government of this colony, that no proceedings should be taken against the said ship or vessel, or the master thereof, under the aforesaid Act of Parliament, for the recovery of said sum of 80*l.* sterling, provided he, the appearer, entered into this present bond of security.

Wherefore, the appearer, the said Colin Simson, as agent and consignee, as aforesaid, of the said Richard Davis and Thomas Boddington, the younger, by these presents, in the name and on behalf of the said Richard Davis and Thomas Boddington, the younger, and of each of them, and of their, and each of their heirs, executors, and representatives, declared to renounce from the exception of *non numeratæ pecuniæ*, or no sufficient value received, and from all other pleas and exceptions known in law, or otherwise, which, if availed of, might lessen, or tend to lessen, the true intent and meaning, force, and effect of these presents, and under such renunciation, the appearer, by these presents, declared to bind and oblige the said Richard Davis and Thomas Boddington, the younger, and each of them, and their, and each of their heirs, executors, and representatives to and in favour of the colony of British Guiana, that they, the said Richard Davis and Thomas Boddington, the younger, and each of them, and their and each of their aforesaids, shall well and truly pay, or cause to be paid, unto the order, and upon the requisition and demand of Her Majesty's Land and Emigration Commissioners, at their office in London, and at such time as such requisition and demand shall be made upon them, the said Richard Davis and Thomas Boddington, the younger, the sum of 80*l.* sterling money of Great Britain, being the minimum penalty of 2*l.* sterling for each person constituting the excess of persons over the number proportioned to the tonnage of the said ship or vessel hereinbefore mentioned and acknowledged by him, the appearer.

And

And for the due and faithful performance and fulfilment of the conditions and stipulations of this bond, the appearer, the said Colin Simson, declared to bind and oblige the persons and properties of the said Richard Davis and Thomas Boddington, the younger, and of each of them, firmly by these presents.

In witness whereof the appearer hath hereunto set his hand, and I, the said sworn clerk and notary public have also subscribed my name at the city of Georgetown, county and colony aforesaid, this 12th day of March 1853, in presence of the subscribing witnesses.

The original, of which this is a true copy, is duly signed.

Quod Attestor.

(SEAL.) (signed) *James S. Hitzler,*
Notary Public.

Fee to be charged to the Colony,

W. Walker, Secretary.
G. G. Lowenfeld,
Colonial Receiver-General. 18 March.

Not. Dept., Sched. B., No. 26,242.

W. H.

Fee for grosse, $2. 50.
Received,
G. G. Lowenfeld,
Colonial Receiver-General.

Enclosure 6, in No. 11.

Sir, Georgetown, 5 February 1853. Encl. 6, in No. 11.

I HAVE to acknowledge receipt of your communication of this date respecting the Chinese immigrants per "Samuel Boddington," and in conformity with his Excellency's suggestion, beg to name Mr. John Ross, of Wakenaam, to act on behalf of Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co., associated with such planter as his Excellency or the Immigration Agent-general may nominate, to inspect and report upon the fitness of these people for agricultural purposes.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Peter Rose.*
For *A. Duff.*

To the Hon. William Walker,
Government Secretary.

Sir, Georgetown, 5 March 1853.

BY desire of his Excellency the Governor we proceeded on board the barque "Samuel Boddington," from Amoy, with Chinese immigrants. We had them mustered on deck, and inspected them, and from their general appearance we are of opinion that they are well adapted for agricultural purposes.

(signed) We have, &c.
Jno. Ross.
Rd. Henderson.

To the Hon. Wm. Walker,
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 7, in No. 11.

Demerara, 9 March 1853. Encl. 7, in No. 11.

HAVING been frequently applied to since my arrival by planters and others interested in Chinese immigration, for information regarding the practicability of obtaining Chinese females for importation, and the character of such females, I have thought it better to address to you a reply, and also to add my conviction that, without their own females, the Chinese, as has been found in India, will never make steady or tractable settlers.

I have for some time had an intimate intercourse with the Chinese at the several sea-ports with which our mercantile house in Bombay have had commercial connexions, and having spent several months in the country for the express purpose of familiarising myself with the peculiarities of the people and their local manners and customs, I am perhaps as well prepared to give you a correct opinion in regard to the matter mentioned as any one else at hand.

A few years since it would have been almost impossible to have carried a Chinese female out of the country, owing to the strict prohibitory laws of the empire, and the national jealousy of the natives; but that jealousy is now diminishing in the seaport towns, and the laws are not enforced when the embarkation is not too publicly conducted.

Within the past two years two or three hundred women have thus left China for the different places to which men had already emigrated. I may mention Batavia, Bali, Lomboc, Penang, Singapore, and San Francisco.

At present their emigration cannot be conducted through resident agents or Chinese brokers, because no one would thus render himself liable to a penalty which might be enforced by a mandarin.

I am well assured that a number of girls and young women, say six hundred, can be voluntarily engaged at once from either of the Chinese ports of Fou Tchan, Chin Chew, Amoy, Namo, or Whampoa, to proceed to the West Indies to join the emigrants already here.

It will however require a person well versed in the peculiarities of the people, to proceed in the vessel which is to convey them, to have absolute charge of said vessel, that he may conduct his arrangements successfully and satisfactorily.

BRITISH GUIANA.

The coast line of China is so densely inhabited, that infanticide has been universally resorted to for the purpose of preventing a superabundant population. Emigration, however, will soon render this practice obsolete.

The Chinese women of the lower classes being but little better than slaves at home, are not averse to emigrating, where the vigilance of the mandarins may be avoided, especially to places under the English government.

The classes of women who would emigrate are those accustomed to manual labour, such as gardeners and boatwomen (the most numerous), washwomen, fishermen's daughters, and the various artisans of the country,—as tailoresses, pastry-cooks, embroiderers, and those engaged in menial occupations in the houses of wealthy natives.

All these have full-grown and undeformed feet, are strong and well formed, and would be very useful on a plantation, independently of rendering the male labourers steady and permanent settlers.

The advantages that would arise from the importation of Chinese females into this colony would, independently of labour they might perform, amply repay the expense in obtaining them.

Better classes of Chinese would emigrate, and those already here would form matrimonial connexions at once; thus becoming, at the expiration of their term of servitude, steady and industrious settlers.

Without some arrangement of this kind is adopted, I fear that constant disturbances will arise between the Chinese and the people of other countries already here; because an universal hatred seems to exist between them and the black people of India and Africa also, that upon the expiration of the period of their servitude they will become, as in their own country, lawless and violent vagabonds.

Enclosed is a circular of our house in Bombay, which in the absence of a card I send you. At all times until my departure for the United States, which will now be soon, I shall be most happy to give you any information in my power regarding the subject of this communication; and should it be determined to import Chinese females into this colony, I will undertake, in the name of our firm (Edward Ely & Co.), upon suitable conditions, to accomplish it satisfactorily.

I am, &c.

To his Excellency Henry Barkly, Esq.
Governor of British Guiana.

(signed) *Edward Ely.*

Enclosure 8, in No. 11.

Demerara, 21 March 1853.

Encl. 8, in No. 11.

I HEREBY offer and agree, for and in the name of the mercantile house of "Edward Ely & Co.," in Bombay, to regularly place at the disposal of the honourable the Land and Emigration Commissioners, or their agents, in any of the ports of China, as many first class (at Lloyd's), well ventilated and fast-sailing ships of not less than 800 tons registered tonnage, comfortably fitted up for passengers, and provided with a competent English surgeon, as will be required by the emigration agents, to embark all the Chinese emigrants destined for the British West Indies, during a period of six years, or less, from this date, without detention, disappointment or difficulty.

I will further agree as above, that each ship thus destined for the West India voyage shall be well supplied and found in the following particulars, before such time as she may be required to embark her emigrants, viz.—

Between the 20th day of March and the 1st day of November.

Five months' water, at the rate of one gallon per diem, for every adult carried by the ship.
1000 bags sound rice.
450 baskets sound salt fish.
300 casks salt beef or pork.
150 tubs hard bread.
50 „ brown sugar.
10 „ sago.
2 „ sulphur.
12 chests black tea.
6 „ tobacco.
2 peculs black pepper.
12 „ Chinese garlic
5 cwt. salt-water soap.
5 „ salt.
50 tons fire wood.
100 mess kids and plates, &c.
1000 plates, basins, trays and scoops.
1000 sleeping mats and pillows.
1000 packs playing cards.
Musical instruments, gongs, &c.
Cooking utensils, combs, razors.
An ample stock of suitable medicines and medical comforts, instruments and utensils.
Wine, brandy, opium, &c.
As great a quantity of fresh provisions as will keep till consumed, &c.

Between the 1st day of November and 20th day of March.

Four months' water at the beforementioned rate.
All other provisions and necessary articles, same quantity as beforementioned.

I further agree, that the emigrant passengers shall be carried as speedily as possible, after their embarkation, to the port of their destination, touching at no place on the voyage, unless from some accident it be necessary for the health, comfort or safety of those on board, and that the arrival of the ship shall be immediately reported to the proper authorities at that port.

The

The consideration asked for the full performance of the stipulations of this offer, is 20*l.* (twenty pounds sterling money) per caput, for each emigrant of the age of 14 years and upwards, landed alive; the same to be payable to an authorised agent of our firm, within 30 days after the landing of the emigrants. Thirty days shall be allowed to expire as lay-days, after the stated time the ship arrives at her port in China, as per order of the emigration agent, prepared in all respects to receive her passengers and proceed to sea; after which time, a demurrage of sixpence (6*d.*) per registered ton per diem shall be paid for every day of detention. Ten days shall be allowed as lay-days in the West Indies, after the notified arrival of the ship, for the disembarkation of the passengers, after which a demurrage of sixpence (6*d.*) per registered ton per diem shall be paid for every day the emigrants are continued on board.

Address "Edward Ely & Co.," Bombay.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Edward Ely*,
for Edward Ely & Co., Bombay.

To S. Walcott, Esq., Secretary,
Land and Emigration Commissioners.

Georgetown, Demerara, 21 March 1853.

Being quite uncertain by whom, and in what manner shipping will hereafter be employed for the conveyance of emigrants from China to the West Indies, I hereby, according to your Excellency's kind permission, entrust to your care a tender to the honourable the Land and Emigration Commissioners, that in case a regular contract with them be required, I shall have at least the opportunity of a fair competition with other parties.

See previous page.

Should my proposition meet with the approval of the honourable Commissioners, and be accepted, I shall by that time have arrived in London, where all the necessary arrangements can be concluded; but should the matter have been left entirely in the hands of the emigration agent in China, I shall nevertheless immediately proceed to dispatch a fine class of ships regularly from Bombay to China, and as almost all our mercantile relations are at present with that country, I shall myself superintend in person the fitting out, ample finding and good despatch of all our vessels there.

That your Excellency may be acquainted with my address, in case of a wish to communicate, I will say that letters will reach me at "New Hope, Bucks County, Pennsylvania," until 1st of June next; in "London," to the care of "Hon. Abbot Lawrence, American Minister, &c." till 25th July, and afterwards to our address, Bombay.

Retaining a deep sense of the kindness and courtesy I have experienced at your Excellency's hands during my short stay in this colony, I shall still beg the indulgence of remaining

Your Excellency's most humble and obliged servant,
(signed) *Edward Ely.*

To His Excellency Henry Barkly, Esq.,
Governor of British Guiana, &c.

Enclosure 9, in No. 11.

Immigration Agent-General's Office, Georgetown,
18 March 1853.

Encl. 9, in No. 11.

Sir,

In addition to my report of the 6th instant, I have the honour to state, that upon inspection, I find the forecastle of the ship had been taken into consideration, and that 50 Chinese were actually berthed in that part of the ship, measuring 26 by 34; the crew having been taken into the cuddy. I submit also copy of the clearing certificate given at Amoy, and signed by Messrs. Tait & Co.; this form was taken from a local ordinance, which Captain Hurst had taken from this colony in 1848, when he brought coolies here, and which I believe at that time allowed three adults to every five tons.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Humphrys*, I.A.G.

The Hon. W. Walker,
Gov. Sec.

Clearing Certificate for Emigrants at Amoy.

Name of Ship.	Name of Master.	Tons per Register.	Total Number of Statute Adults, exclusive of Master, Crew, and Cabin Passengers, the Ship can legally carry.	Aggregate Number of Superficial Feet in the several comparts for Passengers.	Sailing from	Intending to touch at	Bound to
Samuel Boddington -	J. W. Hurst -	669	335	4,152	Amoy	—	Demerara.

BRITISH GUIANA.

We, the undersigned, do hereby certify that the foregoing appear to be the burthen and dimensions of the above-named vessel, and that having regard as well to space as to tonnage, the greatest number of passengers she can carry by the Passenger Act, 1849, is 335; and we further certify, that to the best of our knowledge and belief she is in all respects seaworthy, and that the provisions, water, and stores actually laden on board, have been duly surveyed by us, and are sufficient in quantity, as well for the number of passengers now about to proceed in her, as for the crew; and that the same are of proper quality, and in good and sweet condition; and lastly, that all the directions contained in the Immigration Ordinance of British Guiana, and also in the Passenger Act, 1849, so far as such Act applies to said vessel, for securing the health and safety of the passengers, have been duly complied with, so far as circumstances permit.

Dated at Amoy, this 24th day of November 1852,

(signed) *Tait & Co.*

— No. 12. —

No. 12. Governor Barkly to the Duke of Newcastle. 7 April 1853.

(No. 54.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Barkly* to His Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*.

Government House, 7 April 1853.

My Lord Duke, (Received, 4 May 1853.)

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your Grace's despatch of the 28th February (No. 20)*, enclosing copy of a further communication on the subject of Chinese immigration from the acting superintendent of trade in China, and directing me to examine into and report upon the allegations contained therein as to the abuses practised in procuring emigrants in that country.

* Page 101.

2. My reports upon the arrival of the "Glentanner," "Lord Elgin," and "Samuel Boddington," would subsequently show your Grace that the existence of these abuses did not escape my attention, but that I communicated to Her Majesty's Government, as promptly as possible, all the information I could procure on the subject.

Despatches of 24 January, No. 8, and 12 March, No. 41.

3. Those reports would also demonstrate the impracticability, from the want of competent interpreters, of instituting anything like a searching inquiry on this side, into the motives and expectations which induced the people to emigrate, the nature of the representations made to them, or the precise details of the treatment they met with in the depôts.

4. For my own part, I am inclined to think that the account Dr. Bowring has received of these matters is somewhat over-coloured, no allowance apparently being made for the difference between Asiatic and European ideas—either of good faith or of comfort,—a difference which in the latter respect may be illustrated by the simple fact, that many of the Chinese, who arrived here in the "Glentanner," had, according to their own assertion, never before lived in a house of any kind, and regarded a floor, even if of bamboo, or a roof, even of thatch, as luxuries; whilst, as regards good faith, I have little doubt they would have thought it just as allowable to cheat the Chinese depôt-keeper out of the advances made to them, or to pocket them over and over again by escaping and re-entering, as he on his part would, to employ deception, fraud, or even violence towards them, if it suited his purpose.

5. That it is desirable to find a remedy for such a state of things, is clear, but I must beg leave to differ altogether from Dr. Bowring's view of what that remedy should be; since even were it practicable, as he suggests, to ascertain on the arrival of each vessel in the West Indies, whether the emigrants on board had been deceived by falsehoods or kidnapped by force, and thereupon to decide whether they should be allowed to land or be sent back to China at the expense of the colony, it is not shown how such an arrangement for punishing the innocent vicariously for the guilty, could have the slightest effect in checking malpractices among Chinese crimps.

6. It is true that Dr. Bowring further proposes to give the colony the means of redress against the misdoers, but he does not explain how this is to be accomplished.

7. A far simpler remedy might, in my humble opinion, be devised by the British authorities on the spot, as the whole of the emigration is conducted by British merchants, subject to consular jurisdiction, and almost entirely in British vessels. Why, for instance, should not a heavy penalty be imposed upon the agent or consignee of any vessel clearing for any part of the world, without an affidavit, sworn to by himself, by the master and by the surgeon, before the Vice Consul at

the

the nearest port open to British trade, to the effect that all the passengers are voluntary emigrants, and were put on board without any exhibition of force whatsoever; or if this be impracticable, why should not a bond, with power to recover in any port to which the vessel may be destined, in the event of complaints being substantiated by the emigrants, be exacted from the captain and his securities, as in the case of vessels bringing coolies from Calcutta to the West Indies.

8. I will only add that I have no reason whatever to believe that any of the Chinese introduced into this colony were brought against their will, and that they are going on in a very satisfactory manner,—as shown by the enclosed report from the stipendiary magistrate of the district in which they are all located.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Henry Barkly.*

Enclosure in No. 12.

Stipendiary Magistrate's Office, Encl. in No. 12.
District D, April 6, 1853.

Sir,

MANY of the Chinese immigrants having now been in the colony for a period of nearly three months, I deem it my duty to acquaint his Excellency the Governor with the opinion entertained by the managers of the estates on which these people are located, as to their capabilities as agriculturists.

From the reports I have received from the gentlemen in charge of the respective estates Schoonord, Windsor Forest, La Jalousie and Blankenburgh, it appears these immigrants are giving the greatest satisfaction, and I find that the wages they are now earning average 24 cents per day, which, for people unaccustomed to the field-labour of a tropical climate, certainly evinces a disposition to industry.

Mr. Butts, the manager of La Jalousie, in writing to me on the subject of the Chinese, says, "I am better pleased with them than any class of immigrant that has been introduced into the colony, and my experience in this respect for the last five years has been varied." Mr. G. Bascome, of Windsor Forest, and Mr. C. Bascome, of Schoonord, both assert that they would rather have one Chinese than two coolies, as they consider their physical strength greater.

The report from plantations Vreedenhoop and Ponderoyen is less satisfactory, owing to the debilitated state many of these immigrants were in when they arrived upon the estate, consequently they have performed but little labour, but an improvement here is, I am happy to say, gradually taking place.

The experiment of introducing this class of immigrant here being a novel one, considerable doubts have naturally existed as to its success; but as far as my own personal knowledge has enabled me to judge, coupled with the cheering reports which I have received, induces me to believe that Chinese immigration, judiciously conducted, will be advantageous to the colony.

I have, &c.
The Honourable William Walker, (signed) *Walter Howard Ware*, S. M.
Government Secretary.

— No. 13. —

(No. 73.)

No. 13.
Governor Barkly to the Duke of Newcastle.
3 May 1853.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor *Barkly* to his Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*.

Government House, 3 May 1853.
(Received, 31 May 1853.)

My Lord Duke,

UPWARDS of two months having elapsed since my first visit to the plantations on which Chinese immigrants are located, and those *ex* "Samuel Boddington" having subsequently been sent to the same district, I deemed it my duty to make another tour of inspection, accompanied by the Immigration Agent-general, whose official report of its very satisfactory results I enclose for your Grace's information.

2. All that I learned on this second occasion confirms my previous view of the high value of the Chinese as agricultural labourers, the best proof of which is, that though under the recent resolutions of the Combined Court, the amount to be repaid by those receiving this class of immigrants is very considerable, there is not one employer who already has them, who would not be willing to pay for more.

3. Their presence, indeed, proved the greatest boon during the recent severe drought, when the ground was so hard that neither hoe nor shovel could be used to break it up, for they cheerfully set to work with the agricultural fork, a tool recently introduced with the greatest benefit into colonial husbandry, but to which,

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from its novelty, the negroes manifest an almost insuperable aversion; and thus the planters were enabled to get most effectual work performed at the most desirable moment, for the effect of a tropical drought in pulverizing the stiff clays can only be likened to that of a frost upon tillage at home; at a moment too, when but for the Chinese, and a few of the robuster Indian coolies, no work at all could have been done, except perhaps that preferred by the negro shovelmen, throwing the mud out of the draining trenches, which on all estates might not be needed.

4. Though this forking is, as may be supposed, rather hard work where the soil is baked like a brick, I saw one Chinaman on plantation Windsor Forest, who, having been laid up with fever during the first two days of the week, had turned out and performed with ease to himself six tasks in the remaining four days, thereby earning 2 dollars (8*s.* 4*d.*), the same as his comrades.

5. Another curious proof of their eagerness to earn money was mentioned to me by the proprietor of this estate, no less than 40 of them having turned out to work in the cane fields one Sunday morning, without the knowledge of the manager, and on their being afterwards remonstrated with, replying that Sunday was well enough for black people, but that it was hard that the Chinese should not be allowed to gain wages every day if they chose.

6. A hint that they would not be entitled to payment for work so done, had however the desired effect, and they have not since tried the experiment. Their conduct on the subject forms a striking contrast to that of the Indian immigrants, for I never heard of a cooly's proposing to stir a finger either on Sunday or Christian holiday, although accustomed throughout India to work upon them just the same as on other days.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Henry Barkly.*

Enclosure in No. 13.

Immigration Agent-general's Office,
3 May 1853.

Sir,

Encl. in No. 13.

HAVING had the honour of accompanying his Excellency the Governor on his visit of inspection to the estates on the west coast, upon which Chinese have been located, and having since visited the two River estates employing labourers of this description, I take an early opportunity of reporting officially such facts as came under my observation as affording fair conclusions of the advantages offered to the people, their adaptation to the climate, and the results that may be anticipated on the future exports of this colony by the influx of such labourers.

Independent of the desirableness of locating these people on estates contiguous to town, although so distinct as to separate them from pernicious influences, no portion of the colony was more in want of an immediate and large addition to its resident population, from the very great extent to which the cultivation has been increased.

Being first-class estates, also, in a healthy locality, with abundant means, proper hospitals, and ample house accommodation, no more appropriate locality could have been selected to test a first experiment, and to judge of the propriety of a continuous stream of immigration from China.

The first estate visited by his Excellency on the 21st ultimo was "Stewartville," to which 44 Chinese had been allotted from the "Samuel Boddington" on the 4th of March, and amongst whom two cases of mortality, from fever, occurred soon after their location upon the estate; five were in hospital from slight intermittent fever and diarrhœa, as commonly the case after a long sea voyage and change of diet, but the rest were in general good health, earning on an average 6*d.* per day independent of provisions, including fresh meat twice a week gratuitously distributed by the estate.

At "Anna Catharina" but one death had occurred out of the 47 immigrants placed there out of the same ship, and, with the exception of six in hospital with light and temporary indisposition, and one crazy man, who will never be fit for service, the rest were working steadily and cheerfully, making 1*s.* to 1*s.* 4*d.* per day, of which 4*d.* was being stopped for provisions.

On the "Hague," the adjoining plantation, we found but 37 Chinese of the 39 sent there ex "Samuel Boddington," one having died from yellow fever, and the other from the effects of the voyage; 16 were in hospital with intermittent fever and small sores, the latter arising, in a great measure, from insects and the scratches of the cane leaves, which always occasion some inconvenience to new-comers, and more particularly to those who, having encountered a long sea voyage, are predisposed to irruptions. We remained on this estate until the field gang had been sent for, and although it was but 12 o'clock when they made their appearance, all of them had even then completed six-yard and eight-yard tasks. They were neatly clad in clothes given them by the proprietors, in cheerful spirits, and pleased beyond measure

measure at exhibiting the fruits of their labours, which in one instance reached 10 *s.* During the month of March 30 of them had earned $92. 52., from which $28. 48. had been deducted on account of the advances made in China by Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co., all rations having been liberally issued by the proprietors free of charge. This system was to be continued through the month of April, when all but the sick were to be thrown upon their own resources, which they preferred to the specific amounts fixed by the indentures and rations.

At the "Blankenburg" estate all the Chinese, 83 in number, were from the "Lord Elgin," and no death could be attributed to this climate, as the only three deficient had sunk from debility (two in January and one in April) after their discharge from the Colonial Hospital. In the Estates Hospital, an airy and most comfortable building, we found but one case of intermittent fever, five others being there temporarily with slight indisposition, the manager preferring the expense and trouble of their maintenance even in trivial cases to the slightest risk. On this plantation a very correct account of the disbursements incidental to the acclimatization of so large a gang had been kept. In provisions, clothing, and hospital expenses, these amounted from the 18th January to the 9th April to $769. 47. independent of wages, which had been paid at the same rate as to all other labourers on the plantation. Their progressive earnings afforded the best test of their health and value to the property,

Amounting in the first six weeks to - - -	$136.	24.
" in the next four weeks to - - -	133.	52.
And in the last two weeks to - - - -	105.	96.

Previous to the allotment of these people to Blankenburg the great scarcity of labour in the district had compelled the employment of non-resident labourers or task gangs (one of the crying evils of this country), at the extra cost of 4 *d.* per task. With such an accession of labour these have been dispensed with, and, by a calculation shown me by the manager, he makes out that by this measure the first heavy outlay would be returned to the property on the completion of 151 tasks by each man, or say by the saving of 151 bitts, or $12. 08.

No attempt had been made to obtain repayment of the advances of Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co., which could not well have been expected whilst the proprietors were themselves incurring a heavy outlay under the supposition that so far the wages were inadequate to the support of the immigrants.

On the "Jalousie" estate, to which his Excellency then proceeded, we found 101 Chinese out of the 104 allotted *ex* "Glentanner" in the month of January, one having died a few days after arrival, and two in the month of March. There were no serious cases of sickness in the hospital, and the gang when assembled for inspection gave every indication of good health, and of ability to support themselves from the produce of their earnings.

It appeared to me very unfortunate that this estate should have adopted in its transactions with the Chinese a course different to that pursued by the adjoining plantations; for however just it might have been in the abstract to recover from the people the amount expended in clothing, still it was but probable that less liberal treatment than that experienced on other plantations would cause dissatisfaction. Moreover, I apprehend that if stoppages were to be made, those of Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co. had a primary lien on the wages of the labourers.

From the 17th January, when the people first commenced working for money, their earnings have, as elsewhere, been progressively on the increase; viz.:

For the first four weeks - - -	7	cents per day's labour.
For the next four weeks - - -	7½	ditto - - ditto.
For the next three weeks - - -	11	ditto - - ditto.

For the first two months rations were issued without a charge, and independent of the money wages; but since the 1st of April not only have the people been thrown upon their own resources (which in most cases, it is but justice to say, have ranged from $1 to $1. 25 per week), but stoppages have been made for clothing given elsewhere as a douceur.

"Windsor Forest," which next came under inspection, also received Chinese from the "Glentanner," and but one death in the month of January had occurred out of the 104 sent to the estate. We found the same liberal treatment in operation here as at Blankenburg, and a more healthy and contented set of beings it was impossible to see. Their rooms were tidy in the extreme, their persons cleanly, and the labours of the day being over, they were singing, cooking, and amusing themselves as if totally devoid of care, and as happy as larks. On inspection of the pay-book for the preceding week I found many of the people had earned $1. 56., many more $1. 12., and that all were fairly in a position to maintain themselves, and contribute to the advances made by Hyde, Hodge & Co., if the proprietor will not himself assume them.

The last estate visited by his Excellency on the 21st ultimo was the "Haarlem," on which 45 had been located from the "Samuel Boddington;" and, although no deaths had occurred, two were in the hospital with yellow fever, whose chances of life were but very doubtful, and seven others were confined temporarily with intermittent fever and sores. The remainder were in perfect health, and earning, as the manager informed us, on an average from $1 to $1. 44. At the period of our visit they were, with the exception of the sick, on the same footing as all other labourers in the colony, having experienced the same liberality

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in clothing and household utensils from the owner of the estate as at Windsor Forest and other places.

I regret that the removal of the 45 Chinese from the Vreedenhoop to Anna Regina, on the Arabian coast, has prevented my embracing in this report all immigrants of this class hitherto imported. I am informed, however, that but one death had occurred upon that estate up to the date of their departure.

The only two other river estates receiving Chinese, and which I visited yesterday, are the "Kleyn Ponderoyen" and Schoonord;" to the former 44 were sent *ex* "Glentanner," and to the latter 51 from the "Samuel Boddington." The Kleyn Ponderoyen Chinese appear to have been a sickly lot from their first location upon the estate, four having died soon after their arrival, two having continued throughout in the hospital, and eight others being still so weakly as to be unfit for field labour. The remainder were looking healthy enough, and although not so robust as elsewhere, were earning, according to the estates-book, sufficient for their proper maintenance.

At "Schoonord," the last estate embraced in this report, but one death had taken place (in the month of April), and only two were in hospital with intermittent fever. A number of others were suffering from the scratches of the cane and itch; but the doctor, who met me on the property, was of opinion that they would be better employed about the buildings so long, and that in a few days they would be perfectly well. At foot you have the number of Chinese allotted to each estate from the three ships that have arrived, together with the mortality reported; referring to which,

I have, &c.

The Hon. William Walker. (signed) *J. Gardiner Austin*, I. A. G.

		Immigrants.	Death.
	"Samuel Boddington."		
4 March 1853.	Anna Catharina	47	1
	Schoonord	51	1
	Vreedenhoop	45	1
	Haarlem	45	—
	Stewartville	44	2
	Hague	39	2
	TOTAL	271	7
	"Lord Elgin."		
17 Jan. 1853	Blankenburg	83	3
	"Glentanner."		
12 Jan. 1853	Jalousie	104	3
	Windsor Forest	103	1
	Kleyn Ponderoyen	44	4
	TOTAL	251	8
	TOTALS	605	18

— No. 14. —

(No. 9.)

No. 14. Acting-Governor Walker to the Duke of Newcastle. 24 May 1853.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Acting-Governor *Walker* to his Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*.

Government House, Demerary, 24 May 1853.

My Lord Duke, (Received, 16 June 1853.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Grace a series of resolutions, prepared by the Commissioners of Immigration Correspondence, and adopted by the Court of Policy at its meeting yesterday, relative to the arrangements to be made prospectively, for securing the continuance of emigration from China and Madeira to this colony.

Having had the opportunity of perusing a private letter from Mr. White to Mr. Rose, of a later date than that of his official communication to the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, enclosed with your Grace's despatch No. 35,* this

* Page 111.

day

day received, wherein he expresses himself in even more decided terms as to the necessity of superseding the bounty system by one of Government agency; and having myself been long convinced of the disadvantages attendant on the introduction of immigrants by means which admitted of no effective control or supervision, I deemed it right to request the early attention of the Immigration Correspondence Commissioners to the subject, in a minute of which I beg to transmit a copy.

I was the more desirous of avoiding further delay upon this very important matter, because the months from September to March are stated to be those in which it is to be preferred that vessels with emigrants should leave the ports of China, and because I understand that Mr. White will be in England at the same time with Governor Barkly; and it is of course highly expedient that in discussing plans for the future management of emigration to this colony, they should be in possession of the views and wishes of the Legislature up to the latest date.

I trust it may be practicable to induce Mr. White to return to Hong Kong in time for the opening of the season, and to organise an effective system from that port as a centre or depôt; great confidence is felt here, in his judgment and zeal, and as there seems to be no reason to anticipate the arrival of any further supplies of Chinese immigrants this year, it is considered the more urgently necessary that timely exertions should be used to secure an adequate supply for the next season.

I may here add, that, adverting to Mr. White's suggestion, as to the propriety of some of the Chinese being enabled to return to their own country, so as to inspire their countrymen with confidence in the expatriation to which they are invited, it becomes of essential consequence that they should receive favourable impressions on their first location in this colony; and as their habits and feelings are very peculiar, I think it will be desirable to frame, from the hints afforded by Mr. White, and other sources, a short manual for the use of managers and others to whose charge they may be entrusted. Some have been already committed to gaol for theft, desertion, and refusal to labour, and considering it very likely that such an offence as the last-named might arise from misconception, I have requested the stipendiary magistrates to furnish me with a special report of any such cases.

With respect to the resolutions generally, I am not aware that it is necessary for me at the present moment to discuss them at any length; one or two of them, however, require a brief remark.

The first of these refers to the suggested transfer of the duties of the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, in regard to emigration to this colony, from that board to the Immigration Loan Commissioners in London. Upon this being read, I felt it to be due to the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners to elicit from the elective members of the Court a distinct disclaimer of any intention to cast censure or disparagement upon those gentlemen, accompanied by the explanation that the ground for the expression of the desire embodied in the resolution, is simply a conviction upon the minds of the Members of the Commission that the great pressure upon the time and attention of the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, arising from the extraordinary tide of emigration from the mother country to the Australian and other colonies, renders it difficult for those gentlemen to bestow upon the emigration from Africa and Asia to this colony that constant and immediate attention which its successful prosecution demands.

Another point in the resolutions, which attracted my attention, was the request that I should express my "disapproval" of the exorbitant charges now made in Madeira for parish papers and passports. I certainly do not conceive that I am in a position to authorise me to express officially any opinion upon a matter of entirely domestic arrangement between the Portuguese Government and their own subjects; added to which, the object in view will be much more effectually attained by the raising of the bounty upon immigrants from Madeira from 25 dollars, the rate recently allowed, to the old rate of 30 dollars per head.

This change was carried by the adoption of a resolution, moved by the Honourable Mr. Porter, in conformity with previous notice, and of which I beg to enclose an extract minute. I thought it right to remark upon the inconvenience of frequent alterations in the rates of bounty, which was admitted, but it was urged in reply that the payments demanded of the emigrants by the local authorities and the advance in the cost of freight, render the present increase absolutely necessary; while as these immigrants are now equally with others subject to serve under indenture for a term of years, they are, after all, the cheapest immigrants introduced.

The 15th and 16th resolutions, referring to the number of immigrants which it is desired to obtain from China and Calcutta respectively during the season of

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1853-54, I beg leave to submit for your Grace's decision; with respect to the deficiencies of the present season, therein adverted to, it may be proper for me to state that I have since the meeting of the Court received your Grace's despatches, No. 38 and 41, covering advices of the departure from Calcutta for this colony of the ships "Adelaide" and "Apolline," with coolies; and also that by a note, received yesterday, from Governor Barkly, dated at St. Thomas, I am apprised of the possibility of one of the vessels intended for Trinidad with Chinese immigrants, being sent on to this colony. I believe, however, that under any circumstances, there will be sufficient funds to defray the expense of importing all the immigrants now requested, should so large a number be procurable.

I beg to enclose an extract from the "Royal Gazette" newspaper, containing a tolerably accurate report of the discussion upon the resolutions now transmitted; and at the same time to apologise for any imperfections in this despatch, which has been avoidably prepared with some degree of haste in order to secure the immediate communication to your Grace of a document of considerable importance.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Walker.*

P. S.—I ought perhaps to state, as is the wish of the Immigration Agent-general, that he objected to the terms in which the 10th resolution was originally framed, and that it was modified at his suggestion. *W. W.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 14.

Encl. 1, in No. 14.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Proceedings of the Honourable the Court of Policy of the Colony of British Guiana, at its adjourned Assembly held at the Guiana Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara, Monday, 23d May 1853.

[After Prayers.]

His Excellency laid over an Extract Minute of the Proceedings of the Committee of Immigration Correspondence at a meeting held on the 19th instant. F. J.

Ordered, the Court approves of the report of the committee, and recommends, in addition to it, the adoption of a resolution, extending the term of service of coolie immigrants to not less than eight years, in case the return passage to India should be insisted upon.

(True extract.)
(signed) *W. B. Wolseley,*
Acting Secretary.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Committee of Immigration Correspondence, at their meeting held at the Guiana Public Buildings, on the 19th of May 1853.

Despatches from his Grace the Duke of Newcastle, covering letters from the Land and Emigration Commissioners and Mr. White, on the subject of Chinese immigration, with a minute of his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, having been read, it was resolved that the following recommendations should be submitted to the Legislature:—

"1st. That the system of payment of bounty for Chinese immigrants should be discontinued, and that no bounty should be payable upon any Chinese immigrants brought to this colony by any vessel leaving a Chinese port subsequent to the 1st of October 1853.

"2d. That emigration from China should, in future, be conducted by an agent appointed by the colony under the authority of Government, whose head quarters should be at Hong Kong.

"3d. That vessels should be chartered in England sufficient, if possible, to carry one half of the Chinese immigrants to be introduced into British Guiana during the season of 1853-54.

"4th. That the agent at Hong Kong should be authorised to charter vessels on the spot for the remainder.

"5th. That the vessels taken up in England should be chartered simply for carriage, fittings, and water, and that in such as are proceeding direct from England to Hong Kong, shipments of beef and pork should be forwarded to the agent.

"6th. That a communication should be addressed to the agent at once, to ascertain what quantity of such supplies he may require, in order that shipments should be forwarded to him by other vessels, if necessary, without loss of time.

"7th. That care should be taken to send a proper proportion of interpreters, say one to every fifty, and that a native surgeon and one or two Nayang players or musicians should be in every vessel.

"8th. That his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor should be requested to issue a notice calling upon all persons desirous of obtaining Chinese immigrants, during the next season, to forward applications to the Immigration Agent-General on or before the 15th of June next, after which date no applications would be recorded for the season.

"9th. That

"9th. That, as a general rule, no vessel of less than 800 tons register should be taken up, and that the Agent should be recommended to secure, if possible, such as were of 1,000 tons and upwards.

"10th. That as the time of the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners is so fully taken up with emigration from the United Kingdom, his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor should be requested to urge on Her Majesty's Government the propriety of appointing the Loan Commissioners of British Guiana to discharge the duties connected with the chartering of vessels, shipment of supplies, payment of drafts, correspondence with agents, and all operations connected therewith in the immigration to this colony from China and India.

"11th. That the Agent should be authorised to defray all the necessary expenses of emigration, and to make advances to the emigrants themselves, not exceeding 10 dollars per head, inclusive of clothing, and that all these disbursements should be charged in his account as forming a portion of the cost of introduction.

"12th. That Mr White's suggestion for the introduction of between 200 and 300 young females (if with families the more preferable) by a separate vessel should be adopted, and arrangements made for their passage, the advances to secure that object being left to his discretion.

"13th. That his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor should be requested to express to Mr. White the high sense entertained of his services by the inhabitants of British Guiana, and their anxiety for his early return to China, should he unfortunately have already left for England.

"14th. That Mr. White's suggestions of sending implements of husbandry and mosquito nettings, as used in China, should be adopted to a limited extent.

"15th. That his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor should be requested to give the necessary instructions for the introduction of 1,500 Chinese during the next season, exclusive of the deficiency of the season of 1852-53.

"16th. That his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor should be requested to order 2,500 Calcutta coolies for the season of 1853-54, exclusive of the deficiency of the previous season, with as large a proportion of females as possible, and to urge on Her Majesty's Government at the same time the hardship of compelling the colony to pay a return passage, the charge of which is burthensome in the extreme, and should be discontinued; but in the event of its being insisted upon, that the term of service should be extended to not less than eight years."

A despatch from the Duke of Newcastle, with enclosures from Mr. Spring Rice, having been also read, it was resolved—

"That his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor should be requested to express to Her Majesty's Government the full concurrence of the Commissioners in the views therein stated, and to urge the necessity of immediate communications to the Portuguese Government, having for their object the removal of all restrictions on the emigration from Madeira to British Guiana.

"That his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor should also be requested to express his disapproval of the exorbitant charges now made in Madeira for parish papers and passports, and to intimate the readiness of the colonists to defray any reasonable charges for such purposes."

(signed) *Peter Rose*, Chairman.

Enclosure 2, in No. 14.

Encl. 2, in No. 14.

I SHOULD be glad if the Immigration Correspondence Commissioners would take up the subject of Chinese immigration, as referred to them in the despatches from the Secretary of State, recently laid before the Court of Policy. My own opinion has always been adverse to the bounty system, or at all events to its continuance; its adoption in the first instance might be, perhaps, justified, upon the ground of the necessity for avoiding delay; but the experience of its working shows that it would not answer to continue it except under more effective and direct control, and upon a better organised system than has been hitherto the case. This view is confirmed by the tenor of the communications from Mr. White, of which copies were enclosed in the despatch above-mentioned; but I have, moreover, had access to a private letter from Mr. White to Mr. Rose, dated 9th February, at Hong Kong, the contents of which are very interesting. I think it is of somewhat later date than his latest official letter; at all events he distinctly states that the negotiation for the charter of the Lord Warriston has failed, as had that for the Martin Luther previously.

Mr. White expresses himself on the subject of the emigration, to this effect: that, from the want of shipping, it is doubtful if anything more can be done this season; that he is unwilling to press emigration far at this moment, because any such accident as has occurred on the Cuban voyages might have a serious effect upon the ultimate success of our own arrangements; that emigration should be conducted from Hong Kong alone, or at least of making it the depôt; that vessels chartered in England should be engaged for the voyage only, and not for provisions also; that a supply of the utensils and mosquito nets used by the Chinese should be sent with each vessel; and that some native doctors should be also sent, for which he assigns very satisfactory reasons; that the shipments should take place between September and March; and that the laying in of provisions should be part of the agent's duty.

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From all this I think it is clear that we are not to expect any more Chinese immigrants this year, but that the return of Mr. White to England, and the experience he has gained, will be most beneficial to the colony, if proper advantage be taken of the circumstance of the Governor being at home at the same time.

I would suggest, then, for the consideration of the Commissioners, the propriety of recommending the Legislature to declare that no bounty shall be payable upon any Chinese immigrants brought here in any vessel which shall have left a Chinese port subsequently to the 1st of October next; that the emigration shall in future be conducted by an agent appointed by the colony, and acting under authority of the Government; that such agent be empowered to charter vessels on the spot, failing an adequate supply of tonnage being engaged in England, and to take charge of the arrangements for victualling and providing such other necessaries as the peculiar habits of the Chinese may seem to him to require; that care be taken to send a proper proportion of interpreters and a native surgeon with each ship; that the attention of the agent be specially directed to sending some women; that he be authorised to make advances to a limited amount per head to the emigrants; that, as a general rule, no vessel of less than 600 tons register be taken up for the service; and that Mr. White be induced, if possible, to return immediately to China, and, as the colony agent, organise a system of emigration, for which the head quarters shall be Hong Kong.

Mr. White's letter contains much judicious advice as to the treatment of the Chinese, and I think Mr. Rose would not object to allow a copy of it to be taken for reference. I should wish the subject to be brought forward if possible on Wednesday in the Court of Policy.

14 May 1853. (signed) *W. W.*

As the Commissioners of Immigration Correspondence are to meet this morning, I am desirous to submit for their perusal the accompanying memorandum, from which I propose to draft a short memorandum for the use of managers and others entrusted with the charge of the Chinese immigrants, as I fear that great mistakes may be made in their management from the want of a due appreciation of their very peculiar character, and from ignorance of their language and habits.

19 May 1853. (signed) *W. W.*

Enclosure 3, in No. 14.

Encl. 3, in No. 14. EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Proceedings of the Honourable the Court of Policy of the Colony of British Guiana, at its Adjourned Assembly, held at the Guiana Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara, Monday, 23 May 1853.

[After Prayers.]

THE honourable Mr. Porter, in pursuance of notice, moves, seconded by the honourable Mr. Jones,

That in consequence of the great advance which has lately taken place in the rates of freight, and the expenses for passports, &c., incidental to persons leaving Madeira, it is the opinion of this Court, it is expedient to increase the bounty on the introduction of Portuguese immigrants from 25 dollars to 30 dollars, it being distinctly understood that this sum is to cover all expenses.

Carried unanimously.

(True extract.)

(signed) *W. B. Wolseley,*
Acting Secretary.

Enclosure 4, in No. 14.

Encl. 4, in No. 14. THE following Extract Minute from the proceedings of Commissioners of Immigration Correspondence was read:—

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Committee of Immigration Correspondence, at their Meeting held at the Guiana Public Buildings, on the 19th of May 1853.

Despatches from his Grace the Duke of Newcastle, covering letters from the Land and Emigration Commissioners and Mr. White, on the subject of Chinese Immigration, with a Minute of his Excellency the Lieutenant-governor, having been read, it was resolved that the following recommendation should be submitted to the Legislature:—

"1. That the system of payment of bounty for Chinese immigrants should be discontinued, and that no bounty should be payable upon any Chinese immigrants brought to this colony by any vessel leaving a Chinese port subsequent to the 1st of October 1853.

"2. That emigration from China should, in future, be conducted by an agent appointed by the colony under the authority of Government, whose head quarters should be at Hong Kong.

"3. That vessels should be chartered in England, sufficient, if possible, to carry one-half of the Chinese immigrants to be introduced into British Guiana during the season of 1853–54.

"4. That

"4. That the agent at Hong Kong should be authorised to charter vessels on the spot for the remainder.

"5. That the vessels taken up in England should be chartered simply for carriage, fittings, and water, and that in such as are proceeding direct from England to Hong Kong, shipments of beef and pork should be forwarded to the agent.

"6. That a communication should be addressed to the agent at once, to ascertain what quantity of such supplies he may require, in order that shipments should be forwarded to him by other vessels, if necessary, without loss of time.

"7. That care should be taken to send a proper proportion of interpreters, say one to every 50, and that a native surgeon, and one or two nayang players or musicians should be in every vessel.

"8. That his Excellency the Lieutenant-governor should be requested to issue a notice calling upon all persons desirous of obtaining Chinese immigrants, during the next season, to forward applications to the Immigration Agent-general on or before the 15th of June next, after which date no applications would be recorded for the season.

"9. That, as a general rule, no vessel of less than 800 tons register should be taken up, and that the agent should be recommended to secure, if possible, such as were of 1,000 tons and upwards.

"10. That as the time of the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners is so fully taken up with emigration from the United Kingdom, his Excellency the Lieutenant-governor should be requested to urge on Her Majesty's Government the propriety of appointing the Loan Commissioners of British Guiana to discharge the duties connected with the chartering of vessels, shipment of supplies, payment of drafts, correspondence with agents, and all operations connected therewith in the immigration to this colony from China and India.

"11. That the agent should be authorised to defray all the necessary expenses of emigration, and to make advances to the emigrants themselves, not exceeding 10 dollars per head, inclusive of clothing, and that all these disbursements should be charged in his account, as forming a portion of the cost of introduction.

"12. That Mr. White's suggestion for the introduction of between 200 and 300 young females (if with families the more preferable) by a separate vessel should be adopted, and arrangements made for their passage, the advances to secure that object being left to his discretion.

"13. That his Excellency the Lieutenant-governor should be requested to express to Mr. White the high sense entertained of his services by the inhabitants of British Guiana, and their anxiety for his early return to China, should he unfortunately have already left for England.

"14. That Mr. White's suggestions of sending implements of husbandry and mosquito nettings, as used in China, should be adopted to a limited extent.

"15. That his Excellency the Lieutenant-governor should be requested to give the necessary instructions for the introduction of 1,500 Chinese during the next season, exclusive of the deficiency of the season of 1852-53.

"16. That his Excellency the Lieutenant-governor should be requested to order 2,500 Calcutta coolies for the season of 1853-54, exclusive of the deficiency of the previous season, with as large a proportion of females as possible, and to urge on Her Majesty's Government at the same time the hardship of compelling the colony to pay a return passage, the charge of which is burthensome in the extreme, and should be discontinued; but in the event of its being insisted upon, that the term of service should be extended to not less than eight years."

A despatch from the Duke of Newcastle, with enclosures from Mr. Spring Rice, having been also read, it was resolved—

"That his Excellency the Lieutenant-governor should be requested to express to Her Majesty's Government the full concurrence of the Commissioners in the views therein stated, and to urge the necessity of immediate communications to the Portuguese Government, having for their object the removal of all restrictions on the emigration from Madeira to British Guiana.

"That his Excellency the Lieutenant-governor should also be requested to express his disapproval of the exorbitant charges now made in Madeira for parish papers and passports, and to intimate the readiness of the colonists to defray any reasonable charges for such purposes.

"*Peter Rose*, Chairman."

Lieutenant-governor.—Would the Court be pleased to say whether they approved of those recommendations?

Mr. Gon Netscher.—As a member of the committee, he agreed to them, and had signed them; but there was one observation which he wished to make, with respect to the paragraph relating to the size of the vessels to be employed. Some time ago he had been appointed by the Governor a member of the committee to inquire into the circumstances of the mortality on board of the Chinese immigrant ships; and he had then concurred in the opinion, that no vessels of less than 1,000 tons should be employed. That opinion might appear inconsistent with his acquiescence in the present recommendation; but he must inform the Court that he had proposed to the commissioners on the present occasion to adopt the same standard of 1,000 tons. That proposition, however, was not agreed to. The majority were at first disposed to go as low as 600 tons; but they afterwards consented to fix it at 800 tons, with which, as the nearest approach to the former recommendation, he was obliged to be satisfied.

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Lieutenant-governor.—There could not be two opinions on the subject. The larger vessels were in every way, even in point of economy, better suited to the purpose than the small ones.

Mr. Porter.—There was no difference of opinion as to the desirableness of getting large vessels; but from the great demand for shipping they could not easily get vessels above 800 tons. Not only himself, but every member of the committee, agreed with his honourable friend that large vessels were to be preferred whenever they could be obtained. But there was another point on which he (Mr. Porter) wished to speak, as it was one which, rather strangely, had escaped the notice of himself and his colleagues at their meeting. When Mr. Caird was here he had suggested the probability of their obtaining an extension of the term of service on the part of the coolie immigrants from five to ten years. It was not too late to add to the report an application to that effect.

Mr. Gon Netscher.—Certainly not. He did not know how it had escaped their memories in committee.

Mr. Porter.—Three members of the committee were now present, and he did not think that there could be any objection to it.

Lieutenant-governor.—The Court could add any recommendation it pleased. Honourable members would find that in the 31st clause of the new Immigration Ordinance such an extension was contemplated.

Mr. Porter.—Yes: he moved that the addition to that effect be made to the report.

The proposition was agreed to, and the addition made to the report.

Lieutenant-governor.—There was another point to which he would call their attention. Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co. were under contract with the colony to bring free Africans here at the rate of 5 *l.* a head; but perhaps they would prefer to employ their vessels in conveying immigrants from Madeira.

Mr. Gon Netscher.—But, besides the 5 *l.* bounty which they received, they were in the habit of charging for advances made to the people. Now, the 30 dollars, to which the bounty on Portuguese was to be increased, was intended to cover all expenses.

Lieutenant-governor.—Even in that case, it might be found that they were the best parties to be dealt with.

Mr. Gon Netscher.—He had no objection to deal with them on those terms.

Lieutenant-governor.—Madeira was not much out of their way from the coast of Africa. Perhaps it would be well to introduce in the report some reference to them.

Mr. Gon Netscher.—He did not think it necessary. Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co.'s vessels were all very large, and experience had proved that the immigration trade between this and Madeira did not pay large vessels. Mr. Croal had tried it with the "Palmyra," and failed. Only vessels capable of carrying from 80 to 100 people were successful. This was owing to the length of time for which vessels were kept at Madeira before they could get filled. It was not likely, therefore, that Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co. would trouble themselves with this trade; but if they were inclined to do so, there was nothing to prevent them from entering into it, even in the absence of any express reference to them by the Court.

Lieutenant-governor.—Very well. He would not press his suggestion. He confessed that he did not like too frequent changes in the rates of bounty, because he thought they were likely to produce confusion; but if the Court thought an increase necessary on the present occasion, he would not offer any opposition. He admitted that they would have to contend against a very active competition on the part of other colonies.

Mr. Porter.—Yes; there was a very great necessity for increasing it at the present moment. He begged leave to move the resolution of which he had given notice, to increase the bounty from 25 dollars to 30 dollars.

Mr. Jones had much pleasure in seconding the resolution, as he felt satisfied that the Portuguese were the best description of immigrants that could be introduced here. Every circumstance combined to render them such. They were got much cheaper than any others; they required no return passages; they were to a man industrious in one way or another; and they came here with their families.

Lieutenant-governor.—Would the Court not make some reference to Mr. Taylor, the agent, as to the way in which the money was to be expended? It was intended that five dollars should cover the expenses for parish papers.

Mr. Porter.—Perhaps it would be better to divide the sum; 20 dollars to be paid for the bounty, and five dollars to be placed at the disposal of Mr. Taylor to pay for the parish papers.

On the suggestion of Mr. Jones, the resolution was altered to the following effect:—That in consequence of the great advances that have taken place in the rate of freights, and the expenses for passports incidental to emigration from Madeira, it is expedient to increase the bounty from 25 to 30 dollars, it being understood that this last sum is to cover all expenses.

The resolution, thus altered, was unanimously adopted; and it was agreed that it should come into operation immediately.

Lieutenant-governor.—He approved of the report of the committee; but there were two points in it on which he must make some remark. The first was, the recommendation that the management of the Chinese immigration should be transferred from the hands of the Colonial Land and Immigration Commissioners to those of the Immigration Loan Commissioners. The Colonial Land and Immigration Commissioners had always had the conduct of immigration from India, and although much of their time had been taken up with those duties, he did not believe that any fault had been found, or could be found, with the manner in which they had discharged them. The next point was, the recommendation that

he

he (the Lieutenant-governor) should convey his disapproval of the exorbitant charges made in Madeira for the parish papers and passports of the people before they could emigrate. He did not know that it was competent to him to do so. It was an arrangement of police adopted by the Government of a foreign colony, and, whatever might be his opinion as to the justice or the wisdom of it, he could not presume to dictate to them on the subject of its continuance. But even if he could be justified in taking such a course, it was rendered unnecessary by the vote to which the Court had just come, allowing a sum sufficient to cover all those charges.

Mr. Porter.—Yes, the recommendation was unnecessary now. With regard to the other point referred to by his Excellency, he hoped that the recommendation of the Committee would not be considered to have been intended invidiously. The Colonial Land and Immigration Commissioners had, in addition to their duties connected with immigration from India, superintended up to the present moment immigration of Chinese to this colony; and while that immigration was limited to tens and hundreds of people, they might have been able to get through both duties; but it would be impossible for them to attend to so extensive an immigration from China as the colony required, especially when, as was recommended in the report, vessels were to be chartered and provisioned in England. It was simply for this reason that the committee recommended that they should be relieved, and that the duty should be transferred to the other commission; but it was not intended to cast the slightest reflection on the Colonial Land and Immigration Commissioners, to whom the colony was much indebted.

Lieutenant-governor.—He was perfectly satisfied. His only object was to elicit an opinion on the subject.

— No. 15. —

(No. 13.)

No. 15.
Acting-Governor Walker to the Duke of Newcastle.
1 June 1853.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Acting-Governor *Walker* to his Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*.

Government House, Demerara,
1 June 1853.

My Lord Duke, Received, 2 July 1853.)

1. IN connexion with the subject of the obstacles interposed to emigration from Madeira to this colony, upon which was based one of the series of resolutions enclosed with my despatch of the 24th May, No. 9,* I have now the honour to submit to your Grace a further communication which I have received from the Immigration Agent-general, pointing out the desirableness of ascertaining with accuracy the causes and nature of the difficulties which obviously exist and impede the free course of such emigration.

* Page 56.

1.
No. 161, May 28.

2. An inquiry through Her Majesty's Consul would, perhaps, afford the most satisfactory means of attaining this object; as private interest probably combines to some extent with Governmental restrictions in producing the effect complained of.

3. With respect to the question of the rate of bounty, I may however observe that while 25 dollars per head might be found sufficiently remunerative for vessels of the class usually trading between this colony and Madeira direct, it would not, I think, adverting to the increased demand for and consequent rise in the price of freight, induce shipowners to make vessels of large tonnage call at Madeira on their outward voyage, for the chance of obtaining a sufficient number of emigrant passengers.

4. I avail myself of this opportunity to apprise your Grace that immediately after sending off my despatches by the last mail, I was reminded that by a proclamation issued by the Governor in the month of February, it had been already declared that all bounty upon immigration from China should cease from and after the 31st July next; thus rendering it unnecessary to act upon the resolution of the Court of Policy, founded upon the report of the Commissioners of Immigration Correspondence, by declaring that it should cease from and after the 1st October next. I have to express my regret that this circumstance should have escaped my recollection at the moment, as it appears also to have done that of the members of the Immigration Correspondence Committee.

5. I have herewith the honour to enclose copy of the proclamation issued in accordance with the resolution of the Court of Policy, announcing the augmentation of the bounty on immigrants from the island of Madeira from 25 to 30 dollars, including all expenses.

2.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Walker.*

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Enclosure 1, in No. 15.

Encl. 1, in No. 15.

(No. 161.)

Immigration Agent-General's Office,
28 May 1853.

Sir,

In reference to the subject of immigration from Madeira, which engaged the attention of the Committee of Correspondence on the 19th inst., I have the honour to observe for the consideration of his Excellency the Lieutenant-governor, that the difficulties attending it are not caused solely by the cost of parish papers and passports, but by the Portuguese passenger regulations, which, although occasionally relaxed in their stringency, limit, as I am given to understand by parties here, the number of passengers by every vessel to two for every five tons, and render all operations impossible unless with the clandestine removal of a very large portion of the emigrants.

Whether the statement made to me on this head is correct I am not at present able to ascertain, although I shall lose no time in communication with Mr. Taylor, the Madeira agent, on the subject, but it is quite clear that some cause or other militates very unfavourably against emigration from Madeira to this colony, and that the exorbitant disbursements in the island are an effectual bar to the introduction of a large number of most valuable labourers.

The cost of victualling passengers from hence to Madeira is, I am assured on good authority, but 7 dollars per head, and there is no reason why there should be any increase on the shorter return voyage.

If only legitimate charges of agency were added to this, with 4 dollars per head for advances, and 5 dollars for parish papers and passports, there would be sufficient margin even in the late bounty of 25 dollars (one per ton being allowed, as in the Local Passengers' Act), to induce all vessels trading between this and the United Kingdom to call at Madeira, but the attempts hitherto made having, from the heavy expenditure in Madeira, proved the reverse of profit, it is useless, in my opinion, to expect favourable results, even with the augmented bounty of 30 dollars, until the causes influencing it are brought to light.

If, from the cupidity of individuals, it would be well that the fact should be ascertained, and the odium removed from the Portuguese Government, and it will be for the consideration of his Excellency whether any measures can be appropriately adopted through official but disinterested channels to secure this object.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. Gardiner Austin,*
Immigration Agent-General.

The Hon. W. B. Wolseley,
Acting Government Secretary.

(True copy.)
(signed) *Hugh W. Austin,*
Acting Assistant Government Secretary.

Enclosure 2, in No. 15.

Encl. 2, in No. 15.

PROCLAMATION

British Guiana. [L. S.] William Walker.

By His Excellency *William Walker*, Esq., Lieutenant-Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Colony of *British Guiana*, Vice-Admiral and Ordinary of the same, &c. &c. &c.

WHEREAS by a proclamation dated the 2d day of February 1853, issued byhis Excellency Henry Barkly, Esq., Governor of British Guiana, it was declared and made known, that the sum of 25 dollars should be the bounty, that is to say, the rate of passage-money and maintenance to be allowed under the provisions of the ordinance then in force, to regulate and encourage immigration into this colony from the island of Madeira:

And whereas it hath been resolved by the Honourable the Court of Policy that such rate of bounty is now insufficient by reason of the charges made for passports and the increased rate of freight, and ought therefore to be increased:

Now, I, William Walker, Lieutenant-Governor of the Colony of British Guiana and its dependencies, in virtue of the power and authority in me vested, do hereby proclaim and declare, that in respect of immigrants arriving in this colony from the island of Madeira from and after the publication of this order, so much of the hereinbefore recited proclamation as relates to the rate of bounty payable on immigrants from Madeira, shall be, and the same is hereby rescinded and annulled, and that the bounty, that is to say, the rate of passage-money and maintenance to be allowed henceforward shall be for each and every such Immigrant Thirty Dollars in full of all charges whatsoever, instead of Twenty-five as specified in the said hereinbefore recited Proclamation.

Given under my Hand and Seal of Office, at the Guiana Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara, this Twenty-eighth day of May, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty-three, and in the Sixteenth Year of Her Majesty's Reign.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

By His Excellency's Command,
(signed) *W. B. Wolseley,*
Acting Government Secretary.

BRITISH GUIANA.

— No. 16. —

(No. 29.)

No. 16.
Acting-Governor Walker to the Duke of Newcastle.
8 July 1853.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Acting-Governor *Walker* to His Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*.

Government House, Demerara, 8 July 1853.
(Received, 1 August 1853.)

My Lord Duke,

HAVING observed in one of the local newspapers reiterated statements, to the effect that the Chinese immigrants were worthless, idle and troublesome, and that the experiment of their introduction was an expensive failure, I have thought it might be satisfactory to your Grace, notwithstanding that ample reports were so lately transmitted by the Governor upon this subject, to which will have been since added the advantage of his personal knowledge of the facts, to receive a further statement, brought down to this date, of the opinions formed of the character and value of these people, by parties who may be fairly regarded as impartial judges, and at all events not likely to be strongly biassed in favour of a race whose successful management must obviously require great pains, great command of temper, and unremitting attention.

Vide Extracts, Enclosure 1.

2. Yet I think that more satisfactory testimony to their actual usefulness and ultimately greater value could hardly be expected with any show of reason, than is borne in the several communications from the only stipendiary magistrates in whose districts Chinese are at present located, which I have now the honour to forward, and which embody the results of their inquiries amongst the gentlemen having charge of the estates upon which those immigrants are employed.

2, 3, 4.

3. When it is remembered that these Chinese were not selected with a view to any peculiar fitness for the labour which is assigned to them, but that apparently the chief object was to fill the ships, and this in the absence of any adequate control on the part of responsible agents of the Government to ensure proper accommodation and treatment on the voyage, it seems to be rather matter for surprise that the result should have been thus far so favourable, than that there should exist any ground for cavil or objection.

4. I have thought it advisable to suggest to the magistrates the exercise of caution in familiarising the Chinese with the associations of a prison, where the proper discharge of their duty will admit of the substitution of any other punishment; and with respect to those committed, I have directed that for the present they shall be withdrawn from the public streets and worked within the goal.

5. Having, in my despatch, No. 9, of the 24th of May, alluded to my intention of circulating a memorandum, embodying some suggestions for the judicious treatment of the Chinese, I take the liberty to enclose a copy of that document, which has met the concurrence, so far as I am aware, of all the gentlemen more immediately interested, and which I respectfully hope may also merit your Grace's approval.

5.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Walker.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 16.

Encl. 1, in No. 16.

EXTRACT from the Colonist of *British Guiana*, of June 3d, 1853.

"THE brick dam will for ever attest the industry and skill of the gaol people in weeding, especially the Chinese culprits, who could hardly be expected to survive their superhuman exertions in letting the hoe fall of its own weight once in five minutes. The growth of the sour grass in consequence is astonishing."

EXTRACT from the Colonist of *British Guiana*, of June 13th, 1853.

"IF we can afford to pay 100 dollars each for Chinese, who, after all, it would appear, are useless labourers, we can hardly repine at 60 dollars per year for the whole maintenance of a pauper, at least, we cannot balance the introduction of immigrants against the performance of one of the strictest obligations of society."

EXTRACT from the Colonist of *British Guiana*, of June 15th, 1853.

"IN so far as the disallowance of Ordinance, No. 3, of 1853, may tend to neutralise the arrangements for the introduction of Chinese and coolies, we certainly cannot regard it as

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a calamity, because the expense attending on the importation, and the necessity of affording the latter a return passage, must ever militate against the success of the scheme. The Chinese, again, appear to be of little use as labourers, if we may judge from the specimens we have seen in the penal gang, and from the ominous silence of the planters since their arrival."

(True extracts from the "Colonist" newspapers.)

(signed) *Hugh W. Austin,*
Acting Assistant Government Secretary.

Enclosure 2, in No. 16.

Stipendiary Magistrate's Office,
District D, 21 June 1853.

Encl. 2, in No. 16.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 18th instant, in which you request me to report upon an observation which appeared in the "Colonist" newspaper, reflecting upon the industry of the Chinese labourers lately introduced into the colony.

I beg to state, for the information of his Excellency the Lieutenant-governor, that I lost no time in conferring with Mr. Vander Gon Netscher and Mr. Dalzell, the proprietors of the respective estates on which some of these people are located, and both agree in opinion, that, though these immigrants are at present sickly, that if once acclimatized, they will no doubt hereafter be equally as valuable labourers, indeed if not more so, as the coolies, as they appear to possess a greater amount of physical strength and intelligence; and that, until these gentlemen had had further experience of the capacities of this class of immigrant, it would seem premature at this early period of their introduction in declaring that immigration from China had been attended either with success or failure.

Many of the Chinese, at the time they were allotted to Ponderoyen, were labouring under some disease, and though not sufficiently ill to make it necessary for them to be sent to the Colonial Hospital, still rendered them unable to do much work, therefore as yet this estate has derived but little benefit by their services.

The manager of Schoonord informs me that those who are in health evince every disposition to be industrious, and that their monthly earnings, which are about four dollars, exceed the wages of newly-arrived coolies; it may therefore be inferred, provided the climate is not prejudicial to their health, that the services of the Chinese hereafter will be as much in demand as those of the coolies. If they were considered, by those who have the best opportunity of judging of their capacity, "worthless," it is not probable that so many applications would have been made by the planters to have drafts of these labourers sent to their estates.

The great drawback which has hitherto attended the introduction of Chinese has been the want of intelligent interpreters capable of communicating the wants on the one side, and the wishes on the other, and if this obstacle were once removed, there is no doubt that it would tend much to the comfort of the immigrant and to the advantage of the employer.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Walker Howard Ware,* S.M.

Hugh Austin, Esq.,
Acting Assistant Government Secretary.

(True copy.)

(signed) *Hugh W. Austin,*
Acting Assistant Government Secretary.

Enclosure 3, in No. 16.

Encl. 3, in No. 16.

Sir,

Union, 2 July 1853.

I BEG to lay before his Excellency the Governor the following copies of letters received from managers of estates who have Chinese labourers in their employment:—

Dear Sir,

Windsor Forest, 24 June 1853.

I AM happy to inform you that the Chinese on this estate are some of my best labourers; for strength and endurance they are equal to the Africans.

Last month I had an average of 90 of these fine labourers at work every day, performing the following work, viz.—

Cutting canes, forking cane fields, supplying canes, hauling cane trash off the fields recently cut, working on the copper wall as boilermen, working in the distillery, loading cane punts, carrying megass, &c.

Without our Chinese boys I do not know how we would manage for megass carriers, as there is not a single creole working with them.

The men cutting canes get the same amount as the black people per punt, and they work on an average for three bitts per day.

They

They say, as soon as we have been in the colony long enough to understand the different kind of work, we will make as much money as the creole people.

In forking many of them work for one guilder per day, and few of them make less than three bitts; supplying canes, they make the same amount as forking, hauling, and tying cane trash, which is light work; they make the same amount as black people; and I must do them the justice to say that they do that kind of work 50 per cent. better than the Creoles.

The men in the boiling-house get from five to six bitts per day, according to the quantity of sugar made; those in the distillery get a shilling per day, as their work is light, and they finish early; the children carrying megass, and working about the building, get 12 cents. per day, that being the usual price paid by estates.

The people are happy and contented and cheerful, and I am well satisfied with them; I have advised Mr. Bascom to make application for a hundred more, and sincerely hope we may get them.

You are aware there has been but one Chinaman sent to gaol from this estate, and he was committed for an act of violence.

Three or four of the men keep a night school, and are teaching the boys to write and sing; I often go to their house in the evening, and they always appear glad to see me, and ask many questions about their work; I think I have only done my people justice in speaking of them in a flattering manner.

I am, &c.

James Glen, Esq., S.J.P. (signed) *Griffin H. Bascom.*

Sir, Plantation Stewartville, 29 June 1853.

I RECEIVED from you a short time ago a communication stating that you wished, for the information of the Governor, my opinion of the Chinese labourers located on this estate, as to whether they are useless labourers or not, and I now take the opportunity of replying to the same; my opinion of the Chinese is, that in course of time they will be very good and useful labourers; but the heavy wet season coming on so shortly after their arrival has been greatly against them, giving them fevers and ague, which they are very much troubled with at present; they are also much troubled with little sores. I have at present daily in the field, on an average, 15, and the highest amount worked for has been one dollar and 80 cents; but there is another and very serious drawback to their well doing, which is that there is no one among them that can talk a word of English, consequently we can only communicate with one another by signs.

I have, &c.

James Glen, Esq., S.M. (signed) *Alex. M. Bethune.*

Dear Sir, Plantation Haarlem, 24 June 1853.

I BEG to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 20th instant, requesting me to inform you my opinion of the Chinese as labourers, and whether they are useless as such or not. I beg to state for your information that I have every reason to be satisfied as yet with those located on this estate, and it is my humble opinion that the Chinese are likely to turn out as good labourers as we have in the colony.

I remain, &c.

(signed) *F. A. Matheson,*

James Glen, Esq., S.M. Manager.

Dear Sir, Plantation La Jalousie, 28 June 1853.

YOUR note of 20th June was received on the 22d; I was indisposed at the time, or would have replied before.

You request my candid opinion relative to the Chinese as labourers.

I consider them a very useful class of people, exceedingly apt and intelligent, and very willing, quite equal to any coolies we are now receiving; and when a little more care and judgment has been exercised in their selection, I am confident they will prove far superior in every respect.

We have laboured under the disadvantage of so many being landed with itch and other skin diseases, which have been tedious and troublesome to heal.

Since I assumed the management of the estate they have been principally employed in cane cutting and forking, of which latter work they have been doing a good deal, and which no class of immigrants, save the Portuguese, have as yet taken kindly to.

They have also been employed about the buildings on the copper wall, and working the megass wagons; they have also begun to use the shovel in planting canes, and promise to be very expert at it.

Like every description of immigrants they are a little troublesome for the first two or three months; but I am of opinion when they become seasoned they will prove a better class of labourers for any and every description of work, than those we are receiving from the East Indies.

Any other information respecting the Chinese which you may require I shall be most happy to give.

I am, &c.

James Glen, Esq., S. J. P. (signed) *Stephen R. Butts.*

BRITISH GUIANA.

Sir, Plantation Hague, 22 June 1853.

In reply to your communication of 20th instant, I beg to say that I find the Chinese labourers allotted to this estate a tractable and useful people; I may mention that since the rainy season set in, they are not earning much money, yet they are not idle for a day, nless in case of sickness, of which I cannot complain.

I am, &c.

James Glen, Esq., S. J. P. (signed) *M. Vaughan.*

Dear Sir, Blankenburg, 23 June 1853.

Your communication regarding the Chinese labourers located on this property is at hand, and from what source the Governor got his information that these labourers are useless I know not, nor am I disposed to report to you the contrary, but must invite you and any disinterested planter you may be pleased to select, indeed one that may appear most prejudiced I will prefer; and you can both visit the field where these people are at work, and judge for yourself.

I herewith forward you a statement of the wages earned by these people last week (as I suppose the latest date preferable); also a statement of the creole and coolie gangs for the same time; and by comparing them you may draw your own inference.

The Chinese are like all other immigrants, a number of indifferent people among them; they are far more turbulent and refractory than any other immigrants ever brought to my notice. Prompt and decisive measures should be strictly observed towards them; I have experienced this by several who Mr. Ware and yourself have committed from time to time from the gangs here, and several of them whom I could not get to work on any terms have since their release from gaol turned out serviceable and penitent.

The estates books are open for your inspection regarding the statement I forward.

I have had Africans for the space of 18 months without even preferring a charge against one before a magistrate, I may add coolies also, but Chinamen are not to be classed with these.

In conclusion I must only say, that I am willing to take 50 or 100 more Chinese on the terms I got the last, or if any planter may be dissatisfied with his batch I will be glad to take them over, with the consent of the representative of this property.

I have, &c.

James Glen, Esq., S. M. (signed) *B. Trotman.*

Abstract from the *Blankenburg* Pay List Book for the Week ending 18th June 1853.

	$ c.
26 Chinese shovelmen, worked 112 days for Average, $4\frac{8}{26}$ days, $ 1. 70. pay; or about $39\frac{1}{2}$ c. per diem.	44 24
5 Creole shovelmen, worked 16 days for Average, 35 days, $ 1. 28. pay; or about 40 c. per diem.	6 40
5 Coolie shovelmen, worked 25 days for Average, 5 days, $ 2. $34\frac{2}{5}$ pay; or about $46\frac{1}{2}$ c. per diem.	11 72
19 Chinese weeders, worked 47 days for Average, $2\frac{9}{19}$ days, $ 0. $75\frac{7}{19}$ pay; or about $30\frac{1}{2}$ c. per diem.	14 32
23 Creole and African weeders, worked 44 days for Average, 2 days, $ 0. 29. pay; or about $14\frac{1}{2}$ c. per diem.	12 76
29 Coolie weeders, worked 120 days for Average, $4\frac{11}{29}$ days, $ 1. $26\frac{23}{29}$ pay; or about 30 c. per diem.	36 76

Recapitulation of Chinese.

Shovelmen	26
Weeders	19
In Buildings	2
Superintendent	1
Domestic	1
In Hospital	10
In Goal	1
	60
Not at work or idle during the week	16
Total	76

The

The Chinese weeders worked badly last week, owing to the weather (which was beneficial and easing the work for the shovelmen); I have no hesitation in saying the weeders will do much better this week; every allowance must be made for the inclemency of the weather and the people's late arrival, this being the first wet season they have experienced.

The coolies appear to have done a fair task per diem this week, but I can prove from the books of the estate, some months the coolies' average pay did not exceed 2 dollars, and these people are much reformed since the late prompt measures have been adopted.

(signed) *Saml. B. Trotman.*

I have now for the information of his Excellency given copies of all the letters received by me from managers who have Chinese labourers on the estates under their charge; the manager of Anna Catherina is the only one who has neglected to reply to my note; I will see his employer on Monday, and I have no doubt he will direct him to forward a reply.

The answer to my circular will show to his Excellency that the Chinese are by no means a useless set of labourers; on the contrary, they promise to be as good labourers as any class of people. They were in general landed in a most miserable state, filthy and covered with sores, but still very few deaths have taken place, which shows that they have good constitutions, and that care on the part of the managers must have been bestowed upon them.

When it comes to be considered that these people were landed in a strange country, and among a population strange to them, with hardly any interpreters, and the few that did come with them very bad ones, it is only strange that they have got on so well as they have done.

They now begin to understand that there are equal laws in this country, that they can be punished if they behave badly, and at the same time that they are protected in every way.

I can assure his Excellency that no exertions have been wanted, or will be wanting, on my part to see that ample justice is done to those strangers; at the same time they must be taught that acts of violence, theft, insubordination, &c., on their part, can and will be punished.

All which is most respectfully submitted.

I have, &c.

H. W. Austin, Esq.
Assistant Government Secretary.

(signed) *James Glen*, S.J.P.
District E.

(True copy.)
(signed) *Hugh W. Austin,*
Acting Asst. Govt. Secy.

Enclosure 4, in No. 16.

Sir, Queen's Town, 2 July 1853. Encl. 4, in No. 16.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 15th instant, requiring me to report for the information of his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, the result of my experience as regards the working of Chinese immigrants in their districts.

In reply, I beg respectfully to state for his Excellency's information, that my opportunities of observation, relative to this class of immigrants, have been very limited, as there is only one estate in the two districts, viz., Anna Regina, on which they have been located.

Forty-three of them arrived there April last; they had not recovered the effects of the long voyage, and were much debilitated and in bad health; they came from Plantation Vreed en Hoop, in the county of Demerary, to which estate they were originally indentured.

They have required considerable medical care since their arrival at Anna Regina, but but only one has died; another was accidentally drowned. The manager reports them to be cheerful, peaceable, and well disposed; but their earnings have been small, in consequence not only of their weakly condition, but as they are unaccustomed to the various description of work required on a plantation, they do not yet get through their tasks with facility. The amount of wages paid to them in May was $ 65. 72., and in June, to the 27th, $ 98. 68; they are certainly more muscular and athletic than the cooly, and unless prevented by illness have hitherto turned out regularly to their work every morning; they are under the superintendence of an interpreter who speaks highly of their docility and obedience. None of them have been charged with any offences; they are all males, and reside together in a large building, which is exclusively devoted to their accommodation.

I have no doubt that they will in two or three months prove a valuable addition to the labouring force of Anna Regina.

I have, &c.

H. W. Austin, Esq.
Assistant Government Secretary.

(signed) *Edward Carbery*, S.M.

(True copy.)
(signed) *Hugh W. Austin,*
Acting Asst. Govt. Sect.

BRITISH GUIANA.

Enclosure 5, in No. 16.

Encl. 5, in No. 16.

CHINESE IMMIGRATION.

[Memorandum.]

THE costliness of the experiment of introducing Chinese as cultivators into this colony, and its great importance, looking to the effect which its success or failure may possibly, or even probably, have upon the material interests of the community, combined with the very peculiar, and as yet but little understood, character of those people, and the almost insuperable difficulty of communicating with them directly through any common medium, are considerations sufficient to indicate the desirableness of suggesting some general principles of treatment and management which, being based upon the testimony and information of parties well qualified by personal knowledge of the people to guide us, may prove useful to those who are entrusted with the duty of pioneering the way for fully and fairly testing the experiment in question.

It is to be borne in mind that, *primâ facie*, the Chinese are well adapted to answer the ends for which they are introduced here. Agriculture has in all ages been honoured and fostered in China, although, as respects the degree of practical skill developed, the Chinese rather excel as horticulturists than as agriculturists: they are also, however, very expert in the mechanical arts.

In regard to moral character, it is to be regretted that the concurrent accounts of all writers represent the national standard as being very low, though a distinction exists in this as in other respects between the native Chinese and their Tartar rulers, who occupy most of the chief offices of state, the balance being greatly in favour of the latter. Of the class with whom especially it is likely we shall have most to do, it is alleged that they are plausible and artful; having no great regard for truth, nor being particularly sensitive to shame; the only effect produced upon them by the infliction of punishment being that attendant on the sense of physical pain. A Chinese peasant, it is asserted, will pilfer and steal whatever is within his reach, whenever he can hope to escape detection; and comparing the minuteness of the enactments of their penal code in regard to the strict observance of morals* with their actual attainments, they may be said to present a most striking illustration of the utter incompetency of legislation, unaided by the influence of religious principle, to produce anything like real social virtue amongst men. But with respect to their alleged disregard to the rights of property, it may be very fairly doubted if they are worse than other descriptions of Asiatic immigrants.

The religion of the Chinese may be broadly defined as a system of superstition intimately connected with ceremonial observances in temples. "His Imperial Majesty," says Sir J. F. Davis, "worships the heavens in one temple, the earth in another, the winds in a third, and every mountain and river throughout the country has its altar and its presiding genius. I have myself seen a market gardener (in his particular vocation) paying devout adoration to the fertile powers of the earth, under the semblance of a huge pebble stone; the same circumstances of smoothness and roundness which would have caused an English school boy to select it for a missile having led this poor Chinese to choose it as the object of his especial addresses."

For offenders against the laws there are five degrees of punishment under a code by no means recommended for adoption or even imitation: the first is inflicted with the lesser bamboo,† the correction extending from 4 to 20 blows: the second degree extends from 20 to 40 blows of the larger bamboo:‡ the third is temporary banishment to the distance of 150 miles for from one to three years: the fourth, perpetual banishment, preceded by 100 blows of the bamboo: the fifth, death, by strangulation or beheading. Torture of various kinds is had recourse to to extort confession or evidence. The usual form of a Chinese oath is by decapitating a cock.

Having thus briefly stated those particulars which seemed most strikingly illustrative of the peculiar characteristics of the Chinese, whether nationally or individually, I proceed to notice the suggestions which have been made as to the most judicious method of dealing with them on their first introduction to a country so remote from their own, and to a society so strange as ours is to them. In this, as in many other things, the earliest impressions are of the highest consequence. If the Chinese once acquire confidence in their employers and the authorities, they will be easily managed; they are tractable, and no people better understand the nature of a bargain, and if the other party deal fairly and liberally with them, they will rigidly adhere to their part of the obligation. They possess indomitable industry and perseverance, are shrewd and intelligent, and fond of money; they will work for this to the last; but harsh measures will be certain to fail, and will rouse a spirit of resistance and insubordination difficult to quell. They are naturally of a cheerful temperament, excellent mimics, and easily amused with trifles; but if they once lose confidence they will become disheartened and yearn for home (a feeling indicated by a peculiar bending backward

* Abusive language addressed by a child to its parents or grandparents, or by a wife to the parents or grandparents of her husband, is punishable with death by strangulation.

† This instrument of punishment is 5 feet 8 inches long, 2 inches broad, 1 inch and 1-5th thick, and weighs 1 pound and 5-6ths.

‡ The larger bamboo is 5 feet 8 inches long, 2¾ inches broad, and 2 inches thick, weighing 2⅔ lbs. The punishments are inflicted in open Court immediately after sentence.

backward of the thumbs), and thus their usefulness will be destroyed. They should be therefore treated kindly, but at the same time firmly, and kept in their proper places. If rationed,* the food should be served out to them punctually, and without any desire to be too precise as to the quantity, which would only give rise on their parts to attempts to defraud. Rice is with them, at home, the staple food, and tea the universal beverage; the lower orders, however, eat all sorts of animal and vegetable substances, even in a putrescent state, not rejecting, amongst other delicacies, dogs, cats, and rats.

Their habit of opium smoking becomes a most degrading vice, and the Legislature has wisely ordered that certain restrictions shall be applied to its introduction and use here.

Although the portrait drawn above of this remarkable people is not, perhaps, upon the whole prepossessing, it will be readily inferred that, being a mere handful as compared to the mass of the community, hopes may be legitimately entertained of their ultimate general improvement. It would, however, be obviously wrong, and would have an injurious effect, to expect that such a process can be other than a tedious and difficult one. It is evidently requisite, with the view of facilitating it, that, so far as practicable, the exchange of countries should be effected with the smallest possible interruption to their ordinary associations. Hence the desirableness of their being accompanied by a native musician or two in each vessel, and also by a native surgeon or, more properly, barber; for, although almost entirely ignorant themselves of the healing art, which can be scarcely said to exist amongst them as a separate profession, they have no confidence in, but rather an aversion to, the treatment of European medical practitioners, which, as applied to them, should be of the mildest description, since, however robust and muscular, they cannot stand active depletory remedies. An amusing illustration of this is given by one of my authorities in the case of a Chinese, who said—"Me no like English doctor; he wash out my inside all same as one tea-cup."

It might further answer to supply them at first with some of the implements of husbandry, however rude, to which they have been habituated, although in practice, I believe it has been found that they experience no great difficulty in accustoming themselves to the use of the hoe and the "grapes," or agricultural fork.

The offences for which the Chinese have as yet been brought before the magistrates have been petty thefts, disobedience of orders, and refusal to work; sometimes accompanied by manifestations of violence. With respect to the first mentioned there can be nothing said, except that the more promptly punishment follows detection the better; and it will be apparent from what has been before stated, that a Chinese cannot understand the payment of money as in itself a punishment, although, doubtless, he is familiar with its employment to purchase exemption from the bamboo. With respect to the others, however, allowance may be reasonably made, not merely for the want of comprehension of directions given and of obligations incurred, but for the malicious interference or jealous and overbearing dispositions of the creole foremen or "drivers" employed to overlook the Chinese labourers, a practice which should not be adopted if it be possible to avoid it; indeed, it is considered that it would be expedient to keep them separate from the negroes in their dwellings as well as in the fields; for being a social people they like to keep together, and will, probably, if encouraged, by allowing them a direct interest in the produce of their toil, settle down and become permanently a valuable class of the population. On the other hand, they have a strong tendency to combination, and if they become dissatisfied or disappointed, it must naturally be expected that they will co operate for evil rather than for good.

It is, perhaps, hardly necessary to observe, task work being generally adopted in this colony, that the system of daily pay will not answer with the Chinese; they should, however, be afforded the opportunity of earning at least as much as the estimated amount of daily wages, say 4 dollars per month, exclusive of the value of house, garden, and other privileges.

I have only to add that the foregoing remarks have been thrown together from the article "China," in Chambers's Information for the People, the Transactions of the Royal Asiatic Society, the manuscript communications of Mr. J. T. White, the Colonial Agent in China, and other equally authentic sources. If they shall prove to be of the slightest use to those directly interested in the management of Chinese immigrants, my only object in compiling them will be fully attained.

Public Buildings, 23d June 1853. *W. W.*

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* The ration allowed on their engagement is 1½ lb. rice with ½ lb. salt fish or salt pork, and tea and vegetables, per man per diem.

BRITISH GUIANA.

Despatches from the Secretary of State.

— No. 1. —

No. 1. Right Honourable Earl Grey to Governor Barkly. 13 February 1852. * Page 1.

(No. 448.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Earl *Grey* to Governor *Barkly*.

Sir, Downing-street, 13 February 1852.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 26th August last, No. 124,* enclosing an extract minute of the proceedings of the Court of Policy, with reference to the encouragement to be given to the immigration of Chinese; I have now to acquaint you that Mr. Peter Rose has expressed to me his disappointment at finding on his return to this country that the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners had not sent a ship to China for emigrants.

I therefore think it right, lest the same feeling should be entertained in British Guiana, to transmit to you the enclosed copy of a letter from the Commissioners, which will explain to the Court of Policy why nothing has yet been done on the subject.

8 November 1851.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Grey*.

Enclosure in No. 1.

Colonial Land and Emigration Office,
8 November 1851.

Sir,

1. WITH reference to your letter of the 13th October, directing us to place ourselves in communication with Mr. M'Gregor on the subject of Chinese emigration, we have to state for Earl Grey's information, that after communicating with that gentleman, we have just received a letter from him, in which he intimates that Mr. White will shortly arrive in this country from Calcutta, and expresses his wish that the consideration of this matter should stand over till his arrival.

2. We have also the honour, with reference to our letter of the 13th ultimo, forwarding the copy of a report* addressed by Mr. White to Governor Barkly, to enclose copies of further reports which have reached us from that gentleman.

19 July 1851.
23 July 1851.
21 August 1851.

We have, &c.
(signed) *Tho. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

T. Fred. Elliot, Esq.

Sub-Enclosure 1, in Enclosure in No. 1.

Sir, Macao, 21 June 1851.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that I arrived in China on the 26th ultimo, and that since then I have been engaged in making inquiries and obtaining information on all points connected with my mission to this country.

2. I presented to the Governor of Hong Kong, Sir George S. Bonham, letters of introduction from Earl Grey and Lord Palmerston, and I have received from his Excellency every facility he could afford me.

3. My first intention was to have remained a few days at Penang and Singapore, where large numbers of Chinese are engaged in the cultivation of sugar and of spices, but I found that this would have occasioned considerable delay, by losing the direct steamer for China; and I thought it better to proceed at once to my destination. It may, however, be desirable to have some information with regard to the system pursued towards the Chinese as labourers in those colonies, and with regard to their habits and feelings as English colonists, and I shall remain there a few days on my return from China.

4. I have been in communication with gentlemen long resident in this country, who are well acquainted with the Chinese character, and are conversant with the language; and I have taken advantage of every opportunity that offered to make excursions into the country, in order to see the villages and to acquire some information as to the habits, character, and condition

* The Report referred to forms Sub-Enclosure 1 to this communication.

condition of the peasantry. These excursions have necessarily been limited to the immediate neighbourhood of Hong Kong, Canton, and Macao, as the Chinese Government in this quarter is excessively jealous of foreigners, and it is impossible to proceed any distance without personal danger.

5. I have no hesitation in recommending the Chinese as emigrants for the West Indies. They are represented to me as tractable, easily managed, when they understand the work they have to perform, and as possessing indomitable industry and perseverance in everything they undertake. As far as my own very limited experience extends, I have found them civil, of apparently quiet and inoffensive character, working late and early, and anxious to do anything that offered, by which they might earn a small consideration. The repugnance shown to foreigners in the districts round Canton, arises, I believe, entirely from the instigation of the Government, and that the people if left to themselves would allow travellers and strangers to proceed throughout the country without let or hindrance. I believe the Chinese to be of rather a mild character and fully alive to the necessity of authority for their regulation and control; but harsh measures towards them will be certain of failure, and will rouse a spirit of resistance and insubordination, difficult to quell. They will not submit to be beaten or treated roughly, but will cheerfully obey any regulations, which, when explained to them, they understand to be for their benefit, and which are founded on considerations of kindness and justice.

6. They are generally a strong muscular race, broad shouldered, and bony, and capable of enduring great and continuous fatigue. They are hardworking and industrious, and in physical ability for labour, and the endurance of toil, I should consider one Chinese equal to two of the inhabitants of Bengal. With exception of beggars lounging about the joss houses (or temples), I have not seen a single man idle. The heat of the climate here in the summer is about an average of that in Demerara, and I see the people engaged in ploughing land, cultivating rice, making embankments to recover land from the river, and in other occupations of agriculture from morning to night, and I infer from this that people who are so industrious in their own country, will be good labourers in any other, where their industry will meet with a better reward.

7. There are two traits in the character of the Chinese which will make them valuable labourers in the present state of the West Indies. In the first place they are fond of money, and so devoted to the acquisition of it, that being never satisfied with what they possess, they will continue the pursuit of gain to the very last, and in the second place, they are extremely shrewd and intelligent, keenly alive to their own interests, and will soon perceive the advantage to be derived from cultivating land on their own account, either under lease or for an interest in the produce, or nett proceeds from the soil. In fact they have sufficient intelligence and ambition to rise in the world, and in a short time would become useful and valuable as a middle class in the West Indies.

8. Effective agricultural labourers may be obtained here, and in the adjoining province of Fokien, under agreement of five years' service, without any stipulation as to return passage, at the rate of 4 dollars monthly wages, food and lodging being found by the importers. I believe it is a matter of little moment, what contract may be entered into here. The custom of monthly wages, except for domestic service, is foreign to the habits and feelings of the Chinese. It may be necessary for the first few months after their arrival in the West Indies, to pay them a fixed rate of monthly wages, but I have no doubt that as soon as they know something of the nature of the work required from them, and are satisfied with the climate and with their position, that they will gladly exchange the payment of monthly wages for a system of taskwork. The latter gives a stimulus to industry, whereas the former tends rather to check it, and the Chinese are so fond of money, and so eager to realise gain by any amount of exertion, that they will not hesitate to adopt whatever system they find most conducive to their interests. In Penang, or rather in the Province Wellesley, where the cultivation of sugar is carried on principally, if not almost entirely, by Chinese, the system of monthly wages was tried and persevered in for some time without success. The other system, of giving the Chinese an interest in the cultivation, either by a share of the produce or by a pecuniary consideration proportionate to the return, has been adopted instead, and has been followed by favourable results. In Singapore, the Chinese are in possession of money and land. They are clearing the forests and establishing spice plantations, and by their industry and perseverance have obtained a monopoly of nearly all the profitable secondary occupations of the colony.

9. From the above it will be evident that the Chinese, in my estimation, possess all the elements necessary to constitute useful labourers and good colonists in the West Indies. They possess strength, industry, and intelligence, and are so eager after gain that they will continue to work on as long as it is possible to earn anything by persevering exertion. But there is one great difficulty in the way of a successful emigration and permanent colonization of the West Indies by means of Chinese, and that is the impossibility of obtaining women and families. Extensive emigration has been going on for many years to almost every island in the Indian Archipelago, to Manilla, to Borneo, to Java, where there are several hundred thousand; to Singapore, Malacca, and other places, but in every case the emigration has been of men alone, and there is hardly one solitary instance of the emigration of women or families. In all these cases the Chinese have formed connexions and intermarried with the Malay or other women of the country where they have settled, and the want of female emigration has consequently not been felt. In Singapore I saw numbers of children, the offspring of Chinese and of Malay women, whom they had obtained by purchase. This offspring will, from the pressure of Chinese emigration, become more and

BRITISH GUIANA.

more assimilated to the Chinese race; and I believe that in course of time the Malays will necessarily succumb to the superior energy of the Chinese, and will ultimately disappear from the soil whenever the two races are brought into immediate contact.

10. In all the islands and countries where the Chinese have hitherto settled as emigrants, they have found branches of the Malay family and races cognate to their own; this would not be the case in the West Indies, and I have very great doubts whether they would form connexions of a permanent character with the negro women, so as to become contented and resident colonists. If this difficulty can be got over, I have no doubt as to the successful result of Chinese emigration on the future destinies of the West India colonies.

11. I have made inquiry as to the reasons which prevent the emigration of women and families, and I have had the opportunity of conversing with intelligent Chinese on the subject. One or two gentlemen, whose opinions are entitled to consideration, think that women and families may be obtained if proper steps are taken, and that the only reason why they have not emigrated hitherto has been the absolute want of means to pay the expenses of the voyage. They state that in all the countries in which the Chinese have been sought as labourers, the emigration of women and families has not hitherto been made an object, but that if a free passage were offered, there is every probability that they would avail themselves of it to rejoin their friends and relations. This opinion is, however, greatly overborne by the opinion of other parties, who think that there are reasons in the peculiar state of Chinese society to operate as a bar against the emigration of women. Domestic female slavery is universal throughout China, and girls are purchased at prices varying from 10 to 60 dollars, or even upwards, according to their age and supposed intelligence; and they think that the poor people will, as a matter of course, sell their girls to families, where they will be well taken care of, rather than allow them to leave the country, by which they can derive no practical benefit. If, therefore, it be an object to obtain women and families, a bonus must be given for them, and that by this means alone can the difficulty be overcome. I may add that here, in Macao, female domestic slavery is very common among the Portuguese families, and that nearly all the female servants and ayahs have been obtained by purchase as children.

12. If the colonies of British Guiana and Trinidad shall decide upon giving a trial to the emigration of Chinese from this quarter, various courses are open for the attainment of this object.

First. There are several houses here of high character and established repute who would probably undertake to send effective agricultural labourers to the West Indies, receiving a certain fixed sum per head for every emigrant landed. With reference to this I enclose two letters, one from Syme, Muir & Co., and the other from J. D. Muir of the same firm, and, I believe, the only partner now in China. These letters are the result of a correspondence I have had with Messrs. Syme, Muir & Co. I am also at present in communication with Messrs. Dent & Co. and with Messrs. Russell & Co. upon the same subject, and I shall be able to communicate the result by next mail. I consider that a point of some importance will be gained if Messrs. Dent & Co. undertake the operation. They have been so long established in China, are so well known and so highly respected by the Chinese, that any undertaking in which they are interested will be viewed favourably by the Chinese; while their high standing will be a guarantee to the Chinese emigrants that they will receive just and fair treatment in the country to which they are emigrating.

Secondly. There are various parties, who have been engaged in the shipment of Chinese to Manilla, and to Peru, and other places, who would undertake to procure emigrants, and to ship them on board with clothing, food, water, and all necessaries for the voyage (the colony taking the risk of the varying rates of freight), or they would procure a certain complement of emigrants within a given time, leaving the supplies, as well as the freight, to be arranged for by the colony. On this subject I have received two memorandums, copies of which are enclosed.

Thirdly. The establishment of a bounty, paid in the colony upon all effective agricultural labourers, without reference to the party by whom they may have been sent forward from China. This bounty ought not to exceed 18*l.* sterling, which is the amount fixed by Syme, Muir & Co., as the sum for which they will undertake to land emigrants in the West Indies. If a proclamation shall be issued on this subject it will be necessary to define the ports, and for the present I would confine them to Namoo and Amoy, both in the Fokien province, and perhaps also the port of Canton and the harbour of Macao. Good labourers may, no doubt, be obtained from this quarter (Canton and Macao), but as far as my information goes, labourers of a better description, and with the certainty of their being agriculturists, can be obtained in Fokien than in the neighbourhood of Canton. I would exclude Singapore and Penang altogether. The people who go there from China in the annual fleets of junks are generally seafaring men, and of the refuse population, and the probability is that the colony would have the second refuse, the best people finding employment on the island, or proceeding to Malacca and other places where they have friends and connexions.

Fourthly. The appointment of an emigration agent, whose business it should be to obtain vessels for the conveyance of emigrants of the proper description, and to procure the necessary supplies at the most economical terms. An establishment somewhat similar to the emigration depôt at Calcutta would be required, but on a less expensive scale. Should this system be adopted, arrangements might be made, through Her Majesty's Government, for the employment in this service of the vessels engaged in taking convicts to Australia. These might call at Amoy, or elsewhere, on their return, and having already all the necessary

sary fittings, and the casks and tanks for water, would probably convey emigrants to the West Indies at a cheaper rate than could be obtained by the employment of other vessels.

13. Of these various methods of conducting Chinese emigration, I am not as yet in possession of sufficient information to recommend any one in preference to the others. I lean to the opinion that the first will be found most convenient and judicious, and that under it a better class of labourers will be obtained than under the second or the third. Any person appointed as emigration agent will necessarily have to act, in the first instance, through the intervention of such houses as Dent & Co., and others of established reputation, and it would probably be better to allow them to manage the whole affair, and to take upon themselves the responsibility of all the details connected with the question.

14. There can be no doubt as to obtaining any number of labourers that may be required. This country is peopled to excess, and there is a constant struggle to obtain the bare necessaries of life. In spite of the regulations of the Government, by which emigration is strictly prohibited, the Chinese themselves are anxious to emigrate, and will go anywhere where they have the chance of earning a subsistence. Thousands go to Singapore every year, and are thence gradually spreading over the adjacent countries. The tin mines in the island of Banca are worked entirely by Chinese. In Java there is a population of several hundred thousand. I have been informed that the number amounts to nearly a million, and that the Dutch, in alarm at their increasing numbers, have recently prohibited their introduction. They have found their way to Borneo, and have established large communities in some parts of the island. There are great numbers of them in Manilla; and the Spanish Government, with the view to encourage their immigration into the island, have removed several restrictions that were found injurious. They have found their way also to California, paying their own expenses; and so eager are they to reach this El Dorado, that they are willing to encounter the risk of the voyage in their own junks, totally unfitted as these vessels are for the risks attendant on so long an undertaking.

15. With a people so prone to emigration, and with a population in excess of the means of subsistence, there can be no doubt, I think, that any number of labourers may be obtained, and if emigration be once set a-going, there can be little doubt as to a favourable result. I consider the Chinese as being superior to the Bengalees in every point of view with reference to colonization; and if hereafter any means should be found to overcome the difficulty which now exists as to the non-emigration of women and families, I am confident that the Chinese will be found the best labourers that have yet been introduced into the West Indies.

16. There are many details with regard to the habits and character of the Chinese to which I do not refer at present, as it would extend this communication to an unnecessary length. I may state, however, that if the colonies decide upon giving a trial to this emigration, it will be necessary that they should have a sufficient number of emigrants to form a society of their own. The Chinese are essentially a social and a gregarious people, and must be located in masses together, and not scattered throughout the colony. They must be kept in the first instance distinct and separate from the negroes, not only at their work, but also in their dwellings; and if arrangements could be made for locating them in separate villages, it would conduce much to the success of the emigration. They are naturally of a cheerful disposition, and gratified with trifles, and whatever promotes good humour among them, will tend materially to make them contented and willing labourers.

17. All the information I have received leads me to conclude that Amoy, which is the principal port in the province of Fokien, offers greater facilities for obtaining good labourers than can be procured elsewhere. This is the great seat of emigration influences, and hence the Chinese wander to all parts of the Indian seas. The country between Canton and Amoy is also the principal seat of the sugar cultivation. I purpose going as far as Amoy by the first opportunity that offers. This will not occupy more than two or three weeks, and on my return thence I shall proceed to Singapore and Penang. If the colonies decide upon Chinese emigration it will be quite unnecessary that I should revisit Calcutta; if information be required as to the probability of obtaining good labourers from the Madras presidency, this object may be effected in a few weeks.

18. I write to your Excellency at present under some disadvantage, as all my letters and papers are in Hong Kong; the steamer by which I intended to return there, and which ought to have been here yesterday, has been otherwise employed, and I am obliged to send this forward by a sailing-boat on the chance of its being in time for the mail.

I have, &c.
(signed) *James T. White.*

P.S.—As far as I am aware, no stipulation has ever been introduced into any of the contracts made with Chinese emigrants, securing a return passage at the end of five years, or, if introduced, it has never been claimed by the emigrants.

I have ascertained that in all cases where the Chinese emigrants have proved refractory on board ship, as in some recent cases to South America, it has arisen solely from maltreatment by the officers of the ship, or by the want of sufficient and proper food and water for their subsistence.

To his Excellency Henry Barkly, Esq.
Governor of British Guiana,
&c. &c. &c.

James T. White.

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Sir, Hong Kong, 31 May 1851.

REFERRING to the several conversations we have had on the subject of Chinese coolie labour for the West India islands, we have the following remarks to offer.

The experience of eight years residence at Amoy, the principal seaport of the Fokien province, has satisfied us that the natives of that district are the best adapted for the purpose required, being mostly agriculturists, and though equally enterprising, much more docile and tractable than those of the Canton province, from whom they differ in every characteristic, and even language.

The excessive population and their adventurous disposition led them to emigrate many years ago, and now they are the agriculturists of the Philippine group, and nearly the whole of the Malayan Archipelago, from which places they have carried on an extensive barter trade with Amoy. Latterly they have proceeded as free labourers to Bourbon and to Australia, in both of which places they have been found to answer extremely well. About three years ago a Spanish company induced a body of 800 to go to the Havanna, where it is known they arrived in safety, but of their after fortune no information can be obtained. More recently another Spanish company engaged 500 to cultivate the island of Batan, in the Bushee group, and we learn that although they have only been there about a year and a half, a great part of the island is already in full production.

We are willing to undertake to furnish as many men as might be required for the West Indies, say adults and boys under 10 years of age, latter on the comparative scale of three to two of former. The terms on which we have hitherto engaged them are two dollars to four dollars per month, finding them passage, rations, food, medical attendance, habitation, and two suits of clothing per annum, also passage back if required, but the latter stipulation has never been exacted, and to remove all trouble we would suggest a bonus being given instead, to every one who actually embarked for home on the expiry of his agreement, as few would be found to avail of it. We think with you however, that taking into consideration their industrious habits and the necessity as well as the value of labour, it would be advisable to give them the option on arrival of doing job instead of day work, and to pay them accordingly, guaranteeing of course that they would make per month the same at least as agreed on.

It would be advisable to send one headman and two or three subordinates who could speak, read and write English, to communicate their wishes till they became conversant with the language of their superiors. Such men could easily be procured at Amoy, but would require to be closely watched, as presumption on authority for personal aggrandizement is inseparable from the Chinese character in every situation of life.

One or two native doctors and the same number of musicians (who with the cooks would be exempt from other labour, unless they choose, when not professionally occupied) are indispensable, not only to keep them in health but in spirits, as otherwise they are very subject to "*mal de pays*," which when established is very fatal to them.

Although they have been found to intermarry freely with the aborigines wherever they have gone, and the "Chinese mestizo" of the Philippines are, physically speaking, a very fine race, it would be desirable at first to introduce, if possible, a few families, for which, if practicable, a bonus would require to be given, as independent of emigration being by the Chinese laws strictly prohibited, their attachment to country and locality is very strong. We have made every inquiry as to expense of transport, which is the only point on which we are at a loss, and the result has decided us on tendering to land the coolies at the rate of 18 *l.* (eighteen pounds sterling) per head for adults landed at the port of destination, or 7 *l.* shipped at Amoy, with provisions for the voyage; we should however prefer the former, as we would be enabled thereby to select both ships and commanders, which is a most important particular, as thereon, in a great measure, depends the success of the operation.

Should we be favoured with the contract we need hardly observe that our best efforts will be employed to give every satisfaction, as independent of the influence it will give us in the employment of shipping, we will be able to put into practice a favourite theory of many years' standing, and should experience enable us to reduce the expense hereafter, we will cheerfully modify the rates accordingly.

One member of our firm purposes making a short visit to England in the course of two months, and will be glad to give there any information not embodied in this letter that may be required, and should anything also occur to you before the departure of the mail that has not been touched, we will be happy to satisfy your inquiries.

In conclusion we may mention that the sanction, or rather recognizance by Her Majesty's Government, of the operation through the Governor here and the consul at Amoy, will be of considerable importance in carrying it out.

We have, &c.

James T. White, Esq. (signed) *Syme, Muir & Co.*

My

My dear Sir, Hong Kong, 3 June 1851.

I now proceed to reply to your favour of 31st May in detail.

I have no objection to make the modification you suggest regarding children in either way that may be practicable.

The opium, as well as everything else necessary for the voyage, we would of course provide, and I merely mentioned this circumstance as a necessity, which will at first be required to be provided after arrival, in case it should be wanted, not as a matter of course.

The rations are about 1½ lb. of rice; and ½ lb. of salt fish or meat to each adult per day, with tea and vegetables, which as they are so very cheap, have never been rated.

The coolies would do the full day's work, nine hours, and I have no doubt would prefer task-work, as they would thereby earn more money.

The clothing would consist of banjam and trousers of cotton or drill and China shoes; any finery they would provide themselves.

The headman I would pay well, in order that he should maintain with respectability his position of Mandarin. I would suggest 200*l.* per annum and a house.

The native doctors, musicians, &c., would do their work in the colony with the others; but would require additional pay for their "professional" services; indeed they are to be considered as necessary adjuncts for the good working of the scheme.

The advance would be two months' pay before leaving, which they generally leave with their friends, or expend in the purchase of little comforts for the voyage, and being cash advanced must be recoverable from their pay within six or eight months after arrival.

It is of course understood that, with the exceptions I have named, and perhaps one or two "barbers," all the emigrants are to be agriculturists, and to enter for five years' service in the colony; to have the option of working under contract, or on their own account on payment of a small tax, the monthly wages for which they engage being guaranteed them.

The Government recognizance would remove all obstacles, and I imagine it would cheerfully be given to any feasible project intended for the benefit of the colonies.

I have no copies of contracts by me, but will get them from Amoy; they are, however, in my opinion, very vaguely framed, and I imagine illegal from informality, so would be valueless as guides.

I have written for the information regarding the export of coolies from different parts of China, but think that in round numbers I could name them for the last two years.

From Cumsingmoon for South America	- -	2,200
„ Hong Kong „ California	- - -	4,000
„ Shanghae „ „	- - - -	300
„ Amoy for sundry places	- - - -	18,000

Namoo, being part of the Fokien province, is included with Amoy. It is a small island with about 10,000 inhabitants, and its only importance consists in being the dividing boundary of the two provinces of Canton and Fokien.

I hope these remarks will be of use, and should more information be required, I will be happy to supply it if in my power.

The question has gone abroad but not through me; I have even been applied to, to ascertain if shipping is wanted, but I have replied that I have no authority to say anything in the matter.

I have, &c.

James T. White, Esq.
Victoria.

(signed) *J. D. Muir.*

My dear Sir, Macao, 17 June 1851.

I have the pleasure of sending you the memorandum required of expense of shipping coolies:

Commission for each man	- - - - - - -		$5 –
Ditto to Chinese collector	- - - - - - -		4 –
Food for each man per month	- - - -	$3 50	
Water ditto ditto, a gallon a day	- - - -	2 –	
		5 50	
Estimating the voyage at 5 months (including the purchase of casks)	- - - - - - - - - -		27 50
2 suits of summer clothing	- - - - - - -		2 –
1 suit of winter ditto	- - - - - - -		1 50
Various articles for the voyage	- - - - - - -		3 –

Fitting between decks and kitchen will cost, for 300 men, about 400 dollars; wages, 4 dollars per month, and one month's advance will be required. The coolies will engage themselves for five years; are to be fed, lodged, and medical attendance at the expense of the importers.

The freight paid here has been, for Peru, 25 to 30 dollars a man, for a voyage of 120 days, with provisions put on board for 150 days.

The Government of Peru allows a premium of 30 dollars for each man imported. Vessels

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of about 1,000 tons are required for 400 men, and it is very essential to have ports between decks for ventilation. The greatest attention is to be paid in choosing good captains of mild temper and temperate habits. The Chinese are generally of mild character, but will not bear rough handling.

If you want any more information, give me your views, and I shall do everything in my power to satisfy you.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. A. Durram.*

P. S.—I am not aware that any stipulation has ever been made for the return of coolies to China. I am certain that nothing was provided in the exportations to Peru. *J. A. D.*

J. T. White, Esq., Macao.

MEMORANDUM of J. E. Endicott, Cumsingmoon:

Commission	$ 4	–
Ditto to Chinese collector	4	–
Supplies of food, &c., on a voyage of five months, at 5 dollars a month	2	5
* Cash advanced to coolies for supplying themselves with clothing	4	–

Syme, Muir & Co., in their letter of 31st May, undertake to put emigrants on board at Amoy for the sum of 7 *l.*, say $ 33. 60, with provisions, water, and all necessaries for the voyage.

These memoranda must be considered "private" until some arrangement is definitely made.

James T. White.

Sub-Enclosure 2, in Enclosure in No. 1.

(No. 13.)

Sir, Hong Kong, 19 July 1851.

I HAD the honour to address your Excellency from Macao, under date 21st ultimo, No. 12, mentioning my arrival in China, and what steps I had taken in furtherance of the objects of my mission to this quarter. Thinking it advisable that I should make myself acquainted with the appearance and condition of the people in the neighbourhood of Amoy, and with the prospect of obtaining labourers from that quarter, I left this on the 26th ultimo, and returned on the 16th instant; the voyage there and back occupying 10 days.

2. Amoy lies about 300 miles to the eastward of Hong Kong; it is situated on an island off the mainland, numbers a population of upwards of 100,000 inhabitants, and has for years past been the seat of extensive emigration to all parts of the Indian Archipelago. The trade and commerce of the port are considerable and gradually increasing. Several European houses are established there, and a large portion of the coasting trade has fallen into their hands; the southern coasts of this great empire being so infested by pirates, which the government or naval authorities are either unable or unwilling to destroy, that the Chinese merchants prefer the security of foreign shipping to the risks attendant on their own junks.

The sugar cane is extensively cultivated throughout the entire district from Canton to Amoy. At Changchow, a large town seated on a shallow river, about 40 miles above Amoy, I visited an extensive refinery, where I found the processes of manufacture precisely similar to what prevailed in England previous to the introduction of the vacuum pan. The few cane pieces which I saw in the neighbourhood were luxuriant in appearance, and had been cultivated with the greatest care.

3. During my short stay at Amoy, I visited as much as possible of the surrounding country; going into the villages and examining the habits and character of the people. I did not meet with the slightest obstruction, although I frequently went alone and unattended. I found the people civil and obliging. At Changchow we were followed, at first, by considerable numbers, but they offered neither insult nor rudeness, and displayed only that eager curiosity which may be supposed natural to people, many of whom had probably never seen a European previous to our arrival.

4. As far as my observation extends, the people of this province are not so robust or muscular as those in the province of Canton. They are, however, considered to be of a more quiet and orderly character, hardworking, and submissive to authority. They are almost entirely agriculturists, are eager to emigrate, and are so poor that they will go anywhere on any conditions that may be offered, provided they can secure the bare necessaries of life. Their language is a peculiar dialect of the Chinese, but differing so entirely from that spoken in the Canton province, that the inhabitants do not understand each other, and are obliged to resort to interpretation in their oral communications. Any number of people may be obtained, for the country is peopled to excess, and a careful selection of those offering as emigrants, would secure good and effective labourers.

5. A vessel

* This is to be refunded by the coolies after their arrival in the colony.

5. A vessel called the "Amazon" was lying in harbour, and had been engaged some time previously to convey emigrants to the Sandwich Islands, but in consequence of some pecuniary difficulties affecting the ships, which occasioned her detention, the emigrants had been dismissed. Through the agency of the house entrusted with the operation I sent for some of these people. It was stated to me that the best and most effective of them had returned to their villages, and that those I saw were the worst description; they were all young men from 16 to 30 years of age, the greater part of them strong-framed and effective, but all of them thin and meagre, and evidently suffering from the want of sufficient food; a few were very inferior, and not fit to be sent out as emigrants to the West Indies; they had all been engaged at wages varying from two to three dollars per month. The inspection of these people led me to infer that such low wages are insufficient to induce the emigration of the better class of labourers, and that under any circumstances great care must be taken in the selection.

6. The wages ought to be fixed at four to five dollars a month, with food, lodging, and medical attendance; or perhaps it would be more congenial to the Chinese character if the wages were placed at six to seven dollars per month, leaving them to provide food and lodging from their own resources; both conditions might be set forth in their contracts, leaving them to make their own selection as soon as possible after their arrival.

7. Great weight seems to be attached by the Chinese to their receiving an advance of money previous to their departure; hitherto this has been only six dollars, but I am led to believe that if the amount were fixed at 10 to 12 dollars, it would ensure a better description of emigrants, even more so than by giving them a high rate of wages. The Chinese are essentially a domestic people, fond of their family, and extremely attentive to their aged relatives. Of this advance four dollars at least would be required to enable them to purchase the clothing and other comforts necessary for the voyage; the rest would be given to their relatives and friends, or disposed of in the settlement of debts to enable them to leave the country.

I am assured that there never has been any difficulty in recovering from the Chinese emigrants the money advanced to them previous to their departure from China. The amount has been stated in the contract with the condition of repayment by monthly instalments of one or two dollars, and this condition has been carried out without difficulty or demur.

8. The emigration from China may be carried on throughout the year, but probably to more advantage, and perhaps also with more economy, during the period between November and March. This is the season of the north-east monsoon, when the passage may be made from 30 to 40 days quicker. Agricultural operations are in some measure at a stand, and less employment can be obtained in the fields; better men may therefore be obtained, and perhaps also on more favourable terms.

9. At present an abundance of shipping might be secured for the emigration service. The large influx of American clipper-built vessels from California has had a most injurious effect upon British shipping, as a preference is given to them for the conveyance of teas on account of their superior sailing qualities; British shipping has consequently been thrown out of employ. Many of these are well fitted up and well found, and would be obtained now on lower terms than will be the case hereafter, when the balance of the shipping interests shall be readjusted by the construction of better vessels in England, capable of competing with the American shipping.

10. All the further information I have received confirms the opinion expressed in my last communication to your Excellency, that it will be extremely difficult, if not impossible, to induce the emigration of women and families; they never have done so hitherto, and the Chinese cling with such tenacity to ancient customs that they will hardly be persuaded to adopt a new course in this instance. Women are considered as property, and can be obtained only by purchase, and I believe that the only feasible plan of securing their emigration would be to give an advance of 20 or 30 dollars to such of the emigrants as were disposed to procure respectable women. This might perhaps induce some of them to take their wives and families with them, and the additional sum thus advanced might be deducted by monthly instalments out of the wages of the husband.

A few women might probably be procured by such means, and if the accounts sent home by them to their relatives should be satisfactory, the confidence thus established would no doubt induce others to follow, and in time an adequate number of women and families might be obtained, but in the first instance this will be attended with considerable difficulty. I am afraid, also, that if any large number of women should be found to leave the country it would attract the notice of the mandarins, and have the effect of putting an entire stop to emigration. The mandarins would readily avail themselves of this as a plea to obtain some pecuniary "consideration."

11. I cannot account satisfactorily for the difficulty of procuring women. Female infanticide is very common in the province of Fokien, and I saw at Amoy, in some ponds in the centre of the town, several bundles of matting, which were pointed out to me as containing the bodies of new-born female infants. Under such circumstances one would naturally infer that the Chinese would be glad of the opportunity offered by means of emigration to relieve the country of its superabundant female population. The men appear to me to be domestic and fond of their families and children, and yet, while they emigrate by thousands, there is hardly an instance of any woman having left the country. Many of the Chinese settled in Singapore, Java, and elsewhere are comparatively wealthy; but instead of sending for their families they prefer making remittances to them, and the connexion is kept up by occasional visits to their native land. The few Chinese women in Singapore were purchased

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here as young girls, and I am informed that this system is carried on now, but not to any great extent.

12. It must be borne in mind that the women in China do not work in the fields, at least I have never seen any engaged in any agricultural operation. Probably one-half of the floating population, who live in boats on the rivers and along the shores of China, are women and girls. They are extremely hardworking and industrious, and manage their boats with as much tact and facility as the men. I am inclined to think that these women, from their habits of hard work and eagerness to acquire money, would soon take to the lighter descriptions of field work in the West Indies, and to the weeding and the moulding of the cane. They are large footed, while those living in the country are doomed to perpetual inactivity in consequence of the wretched practice that prevails of having their feet distorted to unnatural smallness.

13. Boys of eight to ten years of age may be obtained, I believe, in considerable numbers at wages varying from one dollar to two dollars per month; girls can only be obtained by purchase. If families should hereafter be induced to emigrate, it would be necessary to pay the father a bonus for each girl. This advance might be recoverable from the girl by resolving it into so many years' wages paid to her in advance, or, as she would soon form some permanent connexion, the amount might be recovered from her husband. I saw several young girls, from six to ten years of age, being hawked about the streets in Amoy, for whom the price asked was from 20 dollars to 50 dollars. These were small-footed girls, and consequently of higher value.

14. I have no reason to alter the opinion formerly expressed, that the Chinese are admirably adapted as labourers for the West Indies; they are strong, active and intelligent, disposed to work, and to make money. The climate here, at least at this season of the year, is very similar to that of the West Indies, and I think they would enjoy health and strength in their new location. The extensive cultivation of rice and of sugar in the lowlands in the two provinces of Canton and Fokien would seem to qualify them for a residence in Trinidad and Demerara, and I believe they will be found hardy and industrious.

The system of payment by monthly wages will not answer well, it discourages industry, and the Chinese will, no doubt, take advantage of it to do as little work as possible. The system of job-work is more consonant to their habits; and though it may be necessary that there should be contracts of service at monthly wages in the first instance, the sooner they are supplanted by special agreements the better will it be for the convenience and interest of both parties.

15. There is one trait in the character of the Chinese which makes me somewhat doubtful as to their conduct in the West Indies, I refer to their habit of combining together for all purposes, whether good, bad, or indifferent. No Chinaman ever acts from individual impulse, but always in concert with others. This principle of their character, if pushed to any extent in such colonies as British Guiana and Trinidad, where the demand for labour is greater than the supply, might be found very inconvenient and injurious. They are also represented to me as being of rather stubborn and wilful disposition; but I believe that this arises principally from the idea of their own vast superiority over all other people, and would probably give way to better information. These two traits will render it necessary to exercise a firm, judicious, and vigilant control in order to check misconduct at its very commencement. I think that giving them an interest in the soil and its produce will probably be the most effectual means of preventing such combinations.

16. I think also that some consideration is due to the great distance of the West Indies, the want of intercourse with China, and to the impossibility of their visiting their native land. With exception of Australia and California, to which emigration has only recently set in, there is frequent intercourse between China and every island in which they have settled, so that emigration is, as it were, only a removal from one part of the empire to another. To remedy the inconveniences probably arising from this, it will be necessary to give facilities for enabling them to correspond with their friends, and to make remittances of money. This will tend to remove the feeling of distance from home, and the necessity for it will decrease as greater numbers settle in the country, and they become organised into a society of their own.

17. I have several forms of contract, but I send only two, which may serve as samples for the rest. These were entered into by emigrants for Sydney and the Sandwich Islands. I send also a form in which the principle has been adopted of giving them an interest in the soil. These people emigrated to the Bashee or Babuyane islands, a small group to the northward of, and a dependency of Manilla. I am informed that the experiment so far has been successful, but as the emigration only took place recently (about a year ago), it is too soon to form any definite opinion.

18. The emigrants to Sydney and Moreton Bay have given entire satisfaction, and arrangements are now in progress to send in 1,000 more without delay. Messrs. Tait & Co. inform me that the emigrants in Sydney appear to have given up entirely the Chinese dress, and endeavour to assume as much as possible the manners and appearance of Europeans, so that a shipment of Chinese clothes made to Sydney was found useless and was returned to Amoy. This incident, which is quite contrary to their usual practice, shows their aptness for emigration, as it indicates a desire, under favourable circumstances, to naturalise themselves in a new country, and would probably insure their settling permanently on the expiry of their engagements. In general, however, they adhere rigidly wherever they go to their own dress, customs, and national peculiarities, but this may perhaps arise in a

great

great measure from their having only been brought into contact with people of a lower civilisation, the number of Europeans being too few and scattered to exercise much influence on their social characteristics.

19. If the colonies shall decide upon giving a trial to this emigration, I would recommend that it be left, in the first instance, to the management of any respectable firm willing to undertake the operation; 1,000 or 1,200 men to Demerara, and 800 to Trinidad, would be sufficient as an experiment. If these should answer well and the colonies desire to carry on emigration upon an extensive scale, it would then be advisable to establish an agent, and to organise a system somewhat similar to that in Calcutta. Better people would be obtained, and the operation carried on with more economy. But at first this emigration must be looked upon as experimental, and any house that may undertake to procure and send forward the emigrants will, from a regard to their own character, and looking to the prospective advantages likely to arise to themselves, if the emigration should be successful, take all necessary precautions to obtain efficient labourers.

20. My absence in Amoy has prevented me from coming to any definitive arrangement with the several parties referred to in the 11th paragraph of my last communication, No. 12, so that the matter is still under consideration. I have a good deal of correspondence, which I shall forward to your Excellency as soon as I can get the letters and papers transcribed.

21. In all my communications with the various parties here and at Amoy, I have considered the English Passengers' Act as the basis of negotiation, and have stated distinctly that the general provisions and stipulations of that Act, as far as applicable to this emigration, would be insisted on, as being necessary to the safety and well-being of the emigrants. I have also stated that nine hours of steady and continuous labour, or the taskwork corresponding thereto, would be required from the emigrant as an equivalent for his monthly wages.

22. If your Excellency should deem it advisable to issue a proclamation on the subject of emigration from this quarter, I would suggest that it be worded so as to include all ports or places in the provinces of Canton and Fokien. My reason for this is, that the best agricultural labourers will probably be obtained not at Hong Kong or Amoy, or other large ports, but at such places as Cumsingmoon, and Namoa. These are opium stations, where the opium receiving vessels lie in sheltered harbours off the mainland; they are at a distance from any large town, but are close upon large agricultural districts and villages, where labourers may be obtained with comparative facility.

23. In comparing this emigration with that from India, I think there can be little doubt as to its superior advantages. The Indians are certainly more docile, and more easily managed than the Chinese, but the latter possess physical strength, industry, and an eager desire to obtain money and to better their position. They have no thought of a return passage, and hitherto have settled permanently in every country to which they have emigrated. The question as to obtaining a supply of women, seems to be attended with almost equal difficulty in India and in China, and in both countries a long time must elapse before the difficulties can be overcome.

I believe that ultimately the cost of emigration from here will be very little higher than from India, and may fairly be represented by the difference in length of voyage, which, under ordinary and similar circumstances, will not exceed 12 or 14 days.

	£.	s.	d.
Estimating the local charges in India (everything inclusive) at - -	2	10	–
And the shipping expenses - - - - - - - - -	10	10	–
This gives - - - - - - £.	13	–	–

as the average cost of Indian emigration.

	£.	s.	d.
The local charges in China, under a responsible agent, appointed by the colony, will not exceed, probably not amount to, so much as the charges in India, say - - - - - - - - - -	2	10	–
The freight ought not to exceed - - - - - - - -	12	10	–
This gives - - - - - - - £:	15	–	–

or a difference of 2*l.* per man in the cost of this emigration. It will in all probability be more expensive at first, but once regulated, and formed into a system, will not exceed the sum named.

The cost of the return passage will be entirely saved.

24. In comparing this emigration with that from Africa, I cannot disguise from myself the conviction that Africa is the proper and legitimate source whence a supply of labour may be obtained for the West Indies. I am inclined to look very favourably upon Chinese emigration, for I think their habits and character dispose them to become useful labourers, and permanent settlers; but the distance hence is very great; the cost of their emigration will be considerable, and the difficulty, or rather the apparent impossibility, of obtaining women and female children except by purchase, present great difficulties in the way of a successful and permanent colonization. On the other hand, the coast of Africa is comparatively

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near, the cost of emigration will be trifling, and women may be obtained (except in such cases as the Kroomen) in equal proportion to the men.

The Chinese possess more intelligence, and habits of greater industry, and have attained a higher civilisation, but, all circumstances considered, it will probably be found that the Africans, especially if they can be obtained at a young age, are better suited to the peculiarities of soil and climate in the West Indies, and to supply the immediate want of labour. Their importation will cost little, and there can be no doubt that they will be permanent residents in the country.

I have, &c.
(signed) *James T. White.*

His Excellency Henry Barkly
Governor of British Guiana
&c. &cr

Enclosure in Sub-Enclosure 2.

MEMORANDUM of an AGREEMENT made this day of A.D. 185 .

I, , in consideration of a free passage to the Hawaiian or Sandwich Islands, and for the further consideration of dollars per month, to be paid to me, my heirs, executors, administrators, or assigns, and also for the further consideration of a suitable dwelling, food, and medical attendance, in all cases except where the sickness is contracted by my own imprudence, to be furnished to me by , of Honolulu, in the Sandwich Islands, his heirs, executors, administrators, or assigns, do hereby promise and agree with the said , his heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, that I will, for and during the term of five years, to begin and be accounted from the day of my arrival in the Sandwich Islands, serve, abide, and continue with the said , his heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, his and their covenant servant, diligently and faithfully according to the utmost of my power, skill, and knowledge, do and perform such service and business whatsoever, as well relating to the business of labour on sugar and coffee plantations in said islands, as in and about all other business matters and things whatsoever as the said , his heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, or any of his or their superintendents or agents, may from time to time order and direct, to and for the greatest profit and advantage of the said , his heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, so far as lies in my power; and having received from the agent in Amoy, of the said , the sum of dollars advance, I agree to repay the same in the Sandwich Islands by a monthly deduction of one dollar from my wages until the said dollars be repaid in full.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand the day and year first above written.

In presence of

ARTICLES of AGREEMENT made and entered into this day of in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty , between George Plomer Collard, of London, of the one part, and , a native of , in the empire of China, labourer, of the other part.

Whereas the said George Plomer Collard being about to sail from China aforesaid, by the ship or vessel , for Brisbane, Moreton Bay, in the colony of New South Wales, hath contracted and agreed with the said to enter into the service of the said George Plomer Collard for the term of five years, to be computed from the time of his arrival at Brisbane aforesaid, in the capacity of shepherd, farm and general servant and labourer, and with, under, and subject to the terms and conditions and in manner hereinafter mentioned; Now therefore these presents witness, that each of them the said George Plomer Collard and doth hereby covenant and agree with the other of them, his executors, administrators, and assigns, in manner following, that is to say:

That the said shall and will hire himself to and serve the said George Plomer Collard as and in the capacity of shepherd, farm and general servant and labourer, during the said term of five years, to commence and be computed from the time of his arrival aforesaid; and the said George Plomer Collard shall take and employ the said as such servant as aforesaid for and during the said term.

That the said shall and will during the said term conduct and demean himself in an orderly and proper manner, and give his faithful and zealous services to the said George Plomer Collard, his executors, administrators, and assigns, and use his best endeavours to serve the said George Plomer Collard, his executors, administrators, and assigns, at such place or places as the said George Plomer Collard, his executors, administrators, and assigns shall from time to time direct, and shall and will well and truly obey all the orders of the said George Plomer Collard, and all such person or persons as shall be placed in charge over him as superintendent or overseer by the said George Plomer Collard, and also shall and will make himself generally useful in performing any duties which may be reasonably required of him by the said George Plomer Collard, his executors, administrators, or assigns, or his or their overseer or superintendent.

That

That the said George Plomer Collard shall and will at the end of every three months during the said term of five years aforesaid pay or cause to be paid to the said for such his due and faithful services aforesaid, after the rate of three dollars per month in British sterling money, at the exchange of four shillings per dollar, such wages to commence from the date of his arrival as aforesaid; and also shall and will, during such faithful servitude of the said , provide or cause to be provided for the said the following weekly provisions, viz., nine pounds of meat, eight pounds of flour, one-eighth of a pound of tea, and one pound of sugar.

That the said , in consideration of his passage by the vessel aforesaid, shall and will consent to be assigned, by written indenture or agreement if necessary, to, and serve such person or persons within the colony of New South Wales aforesaid upon the terms of this agreement, as the said George Plomer Collard, his executors, administrators, or assigns shall think fit and proper, and shall and will enter into a contract or agreement with such person on the terms herein contained; also shall and will pay by four equal quarterly payments to the said George Plomer Collard, his executors, administrators, or assigns, or to such person to whom he may be assigned, out of the first monies or wages to be received by him the said , the sum of dollars now advanced to him.

In witness whereof the said parties to these presents have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year first above written.

Signed, sealed, and delivered by the said George Plomer Collard, in the presence of - - -

Signed, sealed, and delivered by the said , the contents of this agreement having been first read over and explained to him in the Chinese language by - - - - -

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Mr. James Tait, Spanish Vice Consul at Amoy, in the name of, and in representation of, Messrs. Matia, Menchacatorre and Co., Mr. B. A. Barreto, and Mr. J. B. Marcaida, on the one part, and the Chinese on the other part, have agreed and contracted as follows:—

1. The Chinese engages to proceed and establish himself on the Batanes or Babuyanes Islands, and there to devote himself exclusively to the cultivation of the grounds to be allotted him by the above mentioned body or company, of which Mr. Marcaida is at present director.

2. The term for which the Chinese engages to work in the agriculture of the said islands is for five years.

3. Mr. Marcaida will advance the cost of the passage money of the said to the said islands, and he will advance him in Amoy the sum of dollars, wherewith to purchase clothes and other necessaries.

4. Mr. Marcaida will advance the cost of the tools or implements necessary for the work.

5. Mr. Marcaida will supply the cattle which may be necessary for the labour of the ground.

6. Mr. Marcaida, if it appear to him desirable, will supply with cows, goats, &c. for the purpose of breeding, and any profit thereon is to be equally divided.

7. Mr. Marcaida will provide for daily food of ube, gabe, camote, ducay, and maize, with a proportionate quantity of ulam, and in the quantity necessary for the daily sustenance of a labourer for six months, except in cases hereinafter specified.

8. The first labours of shall be directed to the cultivation of plants, &c. suitable for his own sustenance.

9. shall exert himself to produce by his labour as soon as possible, the articles necessary for his sustenance; and so soon as this is attained (though the six months specified in art. No. 7 have not expired), he shall cease to receive rations from Mr. Marcaida.

10. The expense of the passage of , the cost of the tools, the expense of the maintenance of , the cost of the cattle, seeds, &c., and all other expenses incurred, and outlays made by Mr. Marcaida, shall be deducted from the produce of the labour of , and after this deduction is made, the remainder shall be divided into two equal parts, one for , and the other for the company, of which Mr. Marcaida is director; but before dividing the produce, will have the disposal, of what of the ube, gabe, camote, and vegetables he may have grown, he may require for his own consumption.

11. The expenses and advances of which the foregoing article treats, shall be deducted from the produce of the labour of in the two first years of his contract, with the exception of his passage money, which will be deducted in the three last years in equal parts, so that in the five years of his contract, shall have repaid the company all the advances and expenses mentioned in articles 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 11.

12. If should not devote himself to agriculture, or should refuse to work in the manner customary and reasonable for a labourer, and by his bad conduct neglect the cultivation of the ground, his daily rations will be immediately suspended, and he will be

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compelled to repay all the expenses and advances incurred on his account, and Mr Marcaida will be at liberty to dismiss him and oblige him to leave the islands, to preven any ill consequences from his bad example.

13. Mr. Marcaida is security to that the soil of those islands is fertile, that the water is good for drinking, that the climate is healthy, and that the natives of the said islands shall not in any way molest him.

14. Mr. Marcaida is security to that for 15 years he shall not have to pay any tax whatever, and that after 15 years are past, the Government tax will be two reals per month, and if likes to take with him from China, his wife and children, they will likewise be exempt from taxation on the same terms as

15. Mr. Marcaida, with the view of encouraging the exertions of obliges himself to renew the contract after the expiry of five years, for as long as or his heirs may wish, but with the stipulation, that in such a case, shall always be represented or substituted by an able-bodied labourer of more than 16 years of age, approved of by the company; and with the further condition, that or his representative shall never sell the ground, nor transfer his obligations or rights under the contract, without the approbation of the company; and also with the stipulation, that if he leave off for one year, the cultivation of any of the ground he previously worked, the company are at liberty to take said ground from him, and give it to whom they please, without being entitled to any remuneration for the same.

16. If during the first five years should become sick, and his health be not restored in two or three months, and he should wish to leave for Manilla or Amoy, Mr. Marcaida will pay his passage to either place, and will not recover from him any of the advances due. In such a case, however, to Mr. Marcaida will belong the right to all the ground which may have worked.

Lastly, the intended meaning of this contract is, that while works with assiduity, and behaves himself well, fulfilling the conditions of this contract, and while can substitute in his place a man of more than 16 years of age, approved of by the company, he and his heirs shall possess the right to continue cultivating the grounds they may have opened, it being an express condition, that the obligations entered into in this contract are understood to be valid between and whoever may, in place of Mr. Marcaida, represent the company, or may have acquired its rights.

In witness whereof, we, namely, Mr. James Tait as representative of Mr. Juan B^{ta} Marcaida, director of the Company, and Chinese for himself, have hereunto affixed our signatures at the Spanish Vice-Consulate, Amoy, this day of in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and fifty

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Sub-Enclosure 3, in Enclosure in No. 1.

(No. 14.)

Sir, Hong Kong, 23 July 1851.

Since addressing your Excellency on the 19th instant, I have, at the instance of Dr. Gutzlaff, had an interview with some Chinese in reference to emigration to the West Indies. The Doctor had been in previous communication with them, so that they came prepared on the subject.

2. Subjoined are the terms proposed; they were fairly drawn out on paper in Chinese, and I noted down at the moment the verbal translation as given by Dr. Gutzlaff.

Proposition of Ching-a-Soo on the part of the Tung-kwan sugar-growers, subject to the modifications of the British employer:—

1. Each labourer to receive six dollars per month, and his employer to feed him.
2. Over 12 to appoint a headman, who shall receive in advance 100 dollars, under the obligation to marry, and then to receive with his wife 12 dollars per month.
3. One headman over 50 labourers, wages to be 26 dollars; to be a married man, and to receive the same bonus in advance.
4. To pay two months' advance to each labourer, recoverable from his wages.

Proposition on the part of Harva, Bourtong from Teo Cheo, the easternmost part of Kwang Tring Province.

1. To pay each labourer six dollars per month.
2. Over 10 a headman to receive 10 dollars per month.
3. Over 100 a headman to receive 100 dollars per month.
4. As to going out married, with a wife, it is almost an impossibility, and hence an advance of 100 dollars must be made to each of the headmen, to enter the matrimonial state purposely, and the sum be subsequently deducted from their wages.
5. Married couples to receive nine dollars per month.
6. The headmen to be careful in enforcing habits of diligence, and to fine those that indulge in idle habits.
7. Every one to have the utmost facility to make remittances of their monthly wages to their relatives.

8. To

8. To receive on embarkation three months' wages in advance, to be deducted after their arrival.
9. The above propositions subject to the modifications of the individuals who engage the cultivators.
10. Only strong and hale men, who do not indulge in the habit of smoking opium, from Fokien, Teo-Cheo, and Hai Hong, to be engaged in this work.

3. The general result of the interview was that they would take four to five dollars a month (exclusive of food and lodging), or six to seven dollars (without), according to their relative strength; in the last case they would require a small piece of ground for their own use.

4. That one headman in 25 would be sufficient, who should receive seven dollars a month with food and lodging if single, or 10 dollars if married.

5. That the headman over 50, if married and speaking the English language, should have 20 dollars, it being understood that he should also be a physician. The deputation from Teo Cheo said that nobody could be got there who understood the English, and they seemed quite satisfied with 10 dollars per month for their headman.

6. They all adhered steadily to the advance required, which they looked upon as a "*sine quâ non*," to pay their old parents and relatives, who "could receive nothing for some time after they left;" a portion of it was intended also to supply themselves with clothing and other necessaries for the voyage, and for their use after their first arrival.

7. They did not ask a single question about the colony, or the nature of the work, or the climate, or the people; their observations were confined solely to the cost of living, and to the price of rice; they did not make a single remark leading to the inference that they had the least idea of returning to their own country.

8. I asked them if they intended to take large or small-footed women; they replied, that they would take some of the former if required, but that the latter were more respectable, and would make the emigration better liked by the people.

9. On asking why women did not emigrate from China to Singapore, and other places, where the men went, the only reason they gave was that the sea-sickness would kill them, and that their friends always sent home money to enable them to live in China.

The Chinese are great negotiators, and I believe the only way to deal with them is to lay down certain terms, and to adhere to them, and when they find that there is no disposition to make any change, they will probably come into them after a little diplomatic reserve.

10. I have also seen a gentleman from Manilla, who has resided many years in the island, and is well acquainted with the condition and circumstances of the Chinese.

He informs me that the number is from 7,000 to 8,000, of whom 4,000 to 5,000 live in the town, and the rest in the country. Of the latter, some are holders of land, on which they cultivate sugar upon a small scale; others, and by far the greater number, are employed in the sugar factories, where they are found to be intelligent and attentive, and give great satisfaction; others again are shopkeepers, and pedlers, and very few, if any, are engaged as daily labourers on the soil; nearly all these people came to the island originally as coolies, under engagement to work as labourers, but after a short time forsook the field for other pursuits. He describes them as being very hardworking and industrious for the first six or eight months, during which they hoard up every farthing of their earnings, but that as soon as they have realised a few dollars they start off from field-work, and set up as hawkers and travelling agents for the richer shopkeepers in town, or engage in some one of the various trades and occupations to which the Chinese are especially addicted, business of any kind being preferred to field industry. The character given of them by this gentleman corresponds so precisely with that of the Portuguese settled in Demerara, that, with change of name, the description of the one would stand perfectly well for the other.

11. He informed me also, that the Spanish Government, with a view to encourage their settlement as labourers in the country districts, had taken off the poll-tax hitherto levied on them, and had imposed a proportionate higher tax on the shopkeepers and others; but that he thought this would be ineffectual, the habits of the Chinese being essentially commercial.

12. The above statement, carefully considered, shows the necessity of extreme caution in any steps that may be taken, with regard to Chinese emigration, and how easily one may be led astray, if the judgment be formed only upon what may be seen in China, where the people are hardworking and industrious (particularly in the field), owing, perhaps, to the pressure of extreme population. These people may change their habits, and forsake field work when placed in circumstances more favourable to the development of their natural character.

13. This gentleman also stated that the Spanish planters considered the Chinese unable to bear the continuous heat of the climate so well as the native Indians.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. T. White.*

P.S.—I have omitted to mention that the Chinese deputies stated, "That any number of boys could be obtained of the age of 10 or 14, at about two dollars per month; some girls of the same age might be got, but only by making advances to their parents and relatives." Boys of 12 years of age would readily become acclimatised, and would adapt

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themselves to the customs and requirements of the country; they would be easily managed, and in time would probably become useful and valuable labourers. It may be worth consideration, whether an emigration of this kind, properly conducted, and with an admixture of girls, might not prove, ultimately, more conducive than any other to the permanent interests of the colony.

His Excellency Henry Barkly,
Governor of British Guiana,
&c. &c. &c.

James T. White.

Sub-Enclosure 4 in Enclosure in No. 1.

(No. 15.)

Sir,

Hong Kong, 21 August 1851.

When I had last the honour to address your Excellency, under date 21st July, it was my intention to have left this by the steamer on the 5th instant. I have been detained, however, in consequence of the collision between the two steamers, "Pacha" and "Erin," by which the former was sunk, and the latter has sustained considerable injury. I shall leave this by the steamer of the 24th, and after remaining a few days at Singapore and Penang, shall proceed on to Calcutta.

2. I have visited Canton and Macao a second time, in order to see some gentlemen from whom I expected to get further information as to the probability of inducing women and families to emigrate; and I have seen also several Chinese of respectable station in life, and of good intelligence, who are willing to undertake the collection of emigrants for the West Indies.

3. The favourable opinions expressed in my former communication to your Excellency, have been confirmed by subsequent information and experience. In the villages and country districts which I have visited in the neighbourhood of Macao, and on the mainland opposite to Hong Kong, I have found the Chinese always occupied and industrious, and engaged either in ploughing the land, or turning it up with the hoe, or in labouring at the pumps to raise water for irrigation. These pumps are, in principle, similar to the chain pumps in use on board of ship. They are worked by a drum, which is made to revolve by the feet, so that the process resembles the treadmill, and the labour is constant and severe. The cultivation resembles a garden, and every spot of ground is turned to profit by irrigation and manure. The rice crop was ripe, and I saw a considerable number of women reaping the grain. The women thus employed were all boat-women. My guide informed me that they always assisted in reaping the crop, but took no other part in agricultural labour. He said, that although he had never seen women engaged in cutting canes, he thought they would have no objection to that work if paid for their labour, and that the only reason why they did not engage in it in this district was, that the cane land belonged to richer people, who requiring hired labour, preferred that of men, which could always be obtained. The rice fields, on the contrary, were the property of the families whom I saw engaged, or of the villages to which they belonged.

4. The Chinese women are small in comparison with the men. These are in size and strength equal to the African, perhaps not so tall; but the women are of slighter build, and incapable of the great endurance of fatigue which characterise the African women. As far as my observation goes, there are more large footed women in this province than in Amoy. The immense amount of river and canal navigation in the neighbourhood of Canton, and in the adjoining districts, will account for this difference, but the prejudice in favour of small-footed women, as a mark of distinction, seems to exist to the fullest extent.

5. I have reason to believe that the information which I received at Amoy, as to the extreme prevalence of female infanticide, was not altogether correct. Two respectable and well-informed Chinese, with whom I had conversation on the subject of emigration, admit that the practice of infanticide exists, but not to the extent I was led to suppose, and that it prevails with regard to male as well as to female infants. They tell me that the body of an infant is supposed to be without soul until it begins to speak, and that the destruction of life previous to this, if the parents have no means of supporting their offspring, is not considered as a criminal offence. They say, also, that infants who die before they can speak are not buried in the ground, but are thrown into water; and that the bodies which I had seen floating in the ponds at Amoy were probably the bodies of children who had died from natural causes. From the extreme affection which the Chinese show for their children, I am inclined to think that this statement may be correct; but at the same time I must add that the practice of female infanticide in Amoy was spoken of as a matter of certainty, and of frequent if not daily occurrence.

6. The people in this district appear to me extremely desirous of emigrating, and that any number of them may be obtained. In no one instance did they make any inquiry as to the climate or character of the country to which I proposed they should emigrate, or show, by any casual remark, the slightest wish or intention of returning to China. They were anxious only to know if the country belonged to the English, if they should have rice, with fish and pork, for their provisions, and if they could make remittances to their friends and relations. They expressed a great dislike to go to any country which belonged to the Spanish, as the accounts which they had received from their countrymen who went to Cuba had been very unsatisfactory. They expressed great eagerness to go to California, from which some very large remittances had been sent home, and two or three individuals had returned

returned with considerable sums of money; but the paramount idea was evidently to obtain food wherever it could be got, and that, to secure that object, they were ready to embark for any country that offered the means of conveyance.

7. The people who go to California pay for their own passage, and hitherto this emigration has been confined to the better class of artisans, and of shopkeepers possessed of some little property. In the districts round Cumsingmoon I found that all the carpenters had left for this new El Dorado, and the reports they had sent home of the facility of finding gold seemed to have created quite a ferment, and to have given a new impulse to the desire for emigration.

Those who go down to Singapore and Penang, being unable to pay for their own passage in the first instance, come under engagement to refund the amount out of the first earnings after their arrival. According to returns published in one of the Singapore papers, the number of Chinese emigrants who arrived there in 1849 was 10,928, and in 1850, 8,204. These people do not all remain in Singapore, but go on to Java, Banca, Borneo, Malacca, Penang, or wherever else they can find employment for their labour; so that the Chinese race is being gradually but surely diffused over the whole Eastern Archipelago.

8. There are at present two vessels preparing to take in emigrants for Sydney. Captain Simson, of the "General Palmer," informs me that those who were sent there some time ago have given entire satisfaction. Captain Simson entered into engagements with several private individuals before he left Sydney, to bring over a certain number of emigrants for each, at the rate of 10 *l.* 5 *s.* per head, all charges inclusive. The terms he is authorised to offer are three to four dollars wages per month, with food and lodging. The indentures of service to be for five years, and there is no stipulation whatever as to a return passage. He has been directed to take them from Amoy, as all the Chinese emigrants now in Sydney came from that quarter. The total number ordered is about 1,000. Should the accounts which have reached this of the discovery of gold in large quantities in the neighbourhood of Sydney prove correct, there can be little doubt that a very extensive emigration will set in from China to that country.

9. Annexed is the translation of a "Document" which I received a few days ago from a very intelligent person, with whom I had an interview some days previous. He promised to go into the country, and to ascertain from the people themselves on what terms they would be disposed to emigrate, and whether they would be willing to take their wives and families. The document in question shows the result of his inquiries. Your Excellency will observe that he starts no difficulty as to procuring women and families. He cannot undertake to say whether the women would engage in weeding canes, or doing other field-work required; they are not in the habit of doing such work here; but would, he thinks, probably do so in any other country, if adequately paid. The wages of two dollars a month only contemplates domestic employment, the reaping of rice, preparing of flax, and other light occupations of a similar nature. (4.)

10. I had also an interview with a person in Macao, who has been engaged in collecting emigrants for the west coast of South America. His statement to me was, that from 300 to 400 young men a month could be obtained from the sugar districts, at the average wages of four dollars. They would require three months' wages in advance. With this they would furnish themselves with clothing and necessaries for the voyage, and would pay the collecting agent; the balance, about six dollars, they would leave with their relatives and friends as means of support until they could make remittances from the "new country."

This man thought that single families would not leave the country, and that the only way to obtain them would be to take all the collateral branches. In many of the villages there are only two or three families or clans, each having a distinctive name, and living under the authority and control of the oldest members. Each of these families or clans have an "ancestral hall," which is considered by them as sacred. It is here that they assemble on great festive occasions to do honour to the names of their ancestors. It is often used as the school for all the children of the family. It is the place of public meeting to consult on all matters of general interest, and is in every way identified with the welfare and happiness of the clan. Veneration for their ancestors, and respect for the aged, may be considered as the practical religion of the Chinese, and it will therefore be readily understood how unwilling single families must be to separate from all that they hold sacred.

It appears to me very probable that if the plan thus suggested were carried out in practice, the difficulty of obtaining women and families would be to a considerable extent, if not entirely, removed. The emigrants would carry with them the "tablets" of their ancestors, and would re-establish their ancestral halls in their new locations. But a paramount difficulty still remains. The women being small-footed, would be useless as labourers, and the cost of emigration would be greatly enhanced without any corresponding benefit.

Your Excellency will perceive that there is great difference of opinion among the Chinese themselves as to the probability of obtaining women and families. At first, no doubt, there will be considerable difficulty, but if the accounts sent home by the men, and the amount their remittances, be considered satisfactory, I am inclined to think, after comparing all the information I have received on the subject, that by judicious management the difficulties may be overcome, and the emigration placed on a healthy and advantageous footing.

11. With reference to the probable cost of emigration, I have addressed your Excellency in a separate communication, containing such further information as I am possessed of. Owing to the continued arrival of American vessels from California, which, from their superior sailing qualities, are preferred for the conveyance of silks and teas, a great number

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of British vessels are now seeking employment, and might be obtained for emigration purposes at a reasonable rate. The principal difficulty which occurs to me is with regard to a supply of proper butts or casks for water. These could not be obtained in sufficient number to meet any sudden demand, and there is no wood in the country applicable to the construction of water-tight packages.

There would be some difficulty also in procuring surgeons if the conditions of the Passengers' Act were rigidly insisted on. The Chinese are great adepts in medicine and surgery according to their own notions, and I am informed that a respectable man might be obtained o act as surgeon for the voyage. It would not be prudent to trust entirely to these men, ut one or two of them, engaged as assistants to the European surgeon, would probably e found very useful after their arrival in the colony.

12. Instead of depending entirely upon the chance of obtaining vessels in China, I would uggest that arrangements be made by Her Majesty's Government, through the Land and Emigration Commissioners, for the supply of a portion of the requisite shipping, on a plan imilar to what prevails for the Indian emigration. The vessels to arrive out here at stated eriods, say at intervals of one month, and to give 30 lay days for the embarkation of migrants. The vessels employed in conveying troops, emigrants, and convicts to the ustralian colonies would probably be glad of the opportunity thus afforded for continuous mployment in the emigration service, and would take emigrants to the West Indies on s favourable terms as any that could be obtained here.

I have already stated in a former communication, that the best season for carrying on migration is from October to April. The north-east monsoon prevails at that season of he year, and vessels would therefore make quicker passages, and take emigrants on lower erms. But there is no reason why emigration should be discontinued during the other ortion of the year. The hardy frames of the Chinese would bear with comparative indifference a degree of cold that would prove injurious to the slender Bengalee, and an extra uit of clothing would furnish him with every comfort he would require when crossing the tormy latitudes of the Cape of Good Hope.

13. I am still of opinion, that before entering upon any large scheme of emigration, it would be prudent to ascertain by experiment on a small scale, whether the Chinese are likely to answer well as agricultural labourers. Although industrious and hard-working eyond measure in their own country, where necessity compels them to field labour to procure subsistence, it is possible that they may not prove so hardworking and industrious hen placed in other circumstances, and removed from the pressure of want. By habit and haracter they are essentially a commercial people, fond of traffic and barter, of shopkeeping, nd petty manufactures, and of all kinds of desultory employments. I am led to believe hat even in Java, where the number is so large, they do not work in the field, or engage n the actual cultivation of the cane, but are employed principally as superintendents to egulate and direct the cultivation and the manufacture. They are fond of authority, and eing supported in the exercise of it, use little moderation towards the natives of the island, y whose manual labour the cultivation is maintained. Many of them are men of substance, and farm the revenues from Government; and they have possession of nearly all he internal traffic of the island.

This statement corresponds in a great measure with my information regarding Manilla. n both of these countries there is, however, a settled labouring population, adequate to the mmediate wants of the country, and the Chinese emigrants, on their arrival fall naturally nto that position in which their services are most required, and which is at the same time nost consonant to their habits and character. I can discover no good reason why the Chinese, possessed as they are of strength, intelligence, an extreme desire to make money, nd habits of agricultural labour, should not become useful and permanent settlers in the West Indies.

14. I have not yet been able to make up my mind definitively as to the relative advantages of the Amoy or Canton district, with a view to the establishing a permanent system of emigration. It is probable that a greater number of labourers might be obtained at the former, and at somewhat less cost. Here the labourers appear to me of stronger build, and there is, perhaps, a better prospect of obtaining women and families. Shipping will be obtained with greater facility. Should the Colonial Government decide hereafter to appoint an agent specially charged with the care of emigration, Macao appears to me to offer many advantages for the establishment of a depôt. The place is in decay, and property is of comparatively little value, so that the necessary premises might be procured at a moderate cost, and the Portuguese Government would afford every reasonable facility, to establish and carry out a regulated system of emigration. There is constant intercourse with the mainland by road as well as by water, and the inner harbour, or the Typa, afford excellent anchorage for vessels of considerable burthen. Its contiguity to Hong Kong would enable the English colonial authorities to exercise whatever supervision might be considered necessary, to prevent the possibility of abuses. A competent surgeon would be always at hand to examine emigrants previous to their embarkation. My belief is that the Chinese, finding themselves well treated at the depôt, and having full confidence that they would be protected and taken care of by the English Government, would flock to the depôt in sufficient numbers to supply any amount of emigration that would probably be required for British Guiana and Trinidad. Should it be otherwise, the agent could at any time make arrangements to procure emigrants at Amoy, and by visiting that part occasionally, the emigration from both places might be carried on under his immediate superintendence.

15. The peculiar character of the Chinese will render the management of them, on their first

first arrival in the West Indies, a matter of some difficulty before they get accustomed to their new locations. To all appearance they are perfectly impassive, cold, and hard as a rock. Yet they are fond of music, such as it is, and of theatrical shows and amusements, and at their sing-song exhibitions, I have seen hundreds, if not thousands of them, convulsed from ear to ear with roars of laughter. They have an inexhaustible fund of obstinacy, and yet they are always willing to do anything that is required of them, provided it be clearly explained to them, and that they are allowed to do it in their own way. On their first arrival they must be kept cheerful and managed with kindness, and a consideration for their feelings and habits. Yet indulgence will spoil them, for they are extremely cunning, and will profit by the least opening to obtain an advantage. They are large eaters, and must be well fed at first, but if allowed a small plot of ground in lieu of their rice and other bread stuffs, they will soon cultivate an abundance for their own use. Possessed of strong animal passions, I am afraid they may become sullen and discontented unless they should form connexions with the negro women; but if this difficulty can be overcome, they will be found cheerful, contented and industrious.

It will soon be found necessary to give up the system of monthly wages, and to put them in piece work. With exception of domestic service, all work in China is done by the piece, and as this is the habit of the nation, it will no doubt be found to answer better with the emigrants in the West Indies than any other system. It will give a stimulus to exertion, and will enable the planters to get rid of the system of paying monthly or weekly wages to every individual labourer on the estate, by which the cost of production is now considerably enhanced.

When emigration is once fairly established, and the people perceive the advantages to be gained by emigrating to the West Indies, I think it is more than probable that they would undertake to pay a portion of their own passage-money; at present it cannot be expected that they should make any such engagement. Like all other emigrations this will probably have difficulties to encounter in the first instance, many of which do not occur to me at present; but if the Chinese government do not interfere, and the emigration be fairly and judiciously conducted, there can be little doubt of obtaining an abundant supply of agricultural labourers.

I have, &c.
(signed) *James T. White.*

P.S.—Annexed is an extract from the Calcutta newspaper, the "Hurkaru," having reference to the relative value of the Bengalees, Dhangahs and Chinese as agricultural labourers. The writer entertains the same opinions nearly as those I have expressed to your Excellency, giving a preference to the Dhangahs over the Bengalees, and to the Chinese over both. As he had seen the three races working together, his opinion is perhaps worthy of attention.

I annex also blank form of contract under which it is proposed to engage labourers for Sydney, referred to in paragraph No. 8.

His Excellency Henry Barkly,
Governor of British Guiana,
&c. &c. &c.

J. T. W.

(A.)

1. It is hereby clearly stated that every labouring man shall receive four dollars per month wages, and his food shall be furnished at the expense of the contractor.
2. While remaining on board ship, after reaching the anchorage, each company of 50 men shall recive 5 dollars per day for food and necessary expenses.
3. The labourers shall not be under 16, nor over 40 years of age.
4. Each person from 10 to 15 years old shall receive wages two dollars per month.
5. Each woman shall receive wages two dollars per month.
6. Each child, whether male or female, under 10 years of age shall receive food, but no wages.
7. For every 50 labourers there shall be a superintendent who understands a little English, who shall receive wages eight dollars per month.
8. On reaching the anchorage each labourer shall receive in advance four dollars.
9. On the ship being ready to leave each man shall receive in advance four dollars more.

(B.)

Our recent remarks on the subject of employing Chinese labourers in the plantations of the West Indies have brought us some notices of an experiment bearing on the question and tried in this country. Our informant having occasion to bring into cultivation some new land overgrown with a thick-spreading broad-leafed grass, every root of which it was necessary to remove, and despatch and careful culture being objects of equal importance, he employed—but let us quote his own words:—

"He employed a number of labourers from different parts of the country, Bengallees, Dangars, and Chamars, in addition to whom he had a gang of 20 Chinese. The rate at which each of these classes were employed was *Rs.* 2. 12. per month to the Bengallees, two

 rupees.

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rupees to the Dangars, and four rupees to the Chamars; the Chinese being engaged at eight rupees each. For a short time he took no particular account as comparing one class with the other. After a time, however, keeping each class in its own contract, he began to make comparisons, the land and labour generally that was allotted to each being precisely similar; and the result showed more exactly than he could have well conceived, that the Dangars did as much as two Bengallees, the Chamars equal to Dangars, and the Chinese overran two Chamars, the result fully proving the greater economy of the higher paid labour, his eight rupees a month being equivalent to 12 rupees to the Dangars, or 38 rupees to the Bengallees.

"Independently of this greater extent of labour performed by the Chinese, his work is much more neat and regular, as he does not go over the field a second time, but as he proceeds breaks the clods and collects the grass. In planting also they have the advantage of a correct eye, not requiring a line to guide them; their paces also being very accurate, those who have ever cultivated will know the value of them."

This is not very clearly expressed, but it supports the belief that Chinese labourers, of whom doubtless any number may be had at Singapore, would be found very useful on the sugar plantations of the West Indies.

Our correspondent elsewhere expresses some surprise that gentlemen here who pride themselves on their gardens do not employ Chinese gardeners, seeing how much these are renowned for skill in horticulture.

Extracted from the Bengal Hurkaru of the 27th May 1851.

(C.)

MEMORANDUM of AGREEMENT made and entered into this day of in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty- between a native of China, of the one part, and of in the territory of New South Wales, of the other part, witnesseth that the said agrees to serve the said and such person or persons whom he may place in charge over the said in the capacity of shepherd, farm and general servant, and labourer in the said territory, for the term of five years, to commence from the date of the arrival of the said in the said territory; and to obey all his lawful orders and the orders of such persons as may be placed in charge over him. And the said agrees to pay the said at the end of every three months, wages at the rate of three dollars per month, the said amount to be paid in sterling British money, at the exchange of four shillings per dollar; and also to provide the following weekly rations, namely,—

1 lb. of sugar,
8 lbs. of flour,
9 lbs. of meat,
2 oz. of tea.

And the said agrees to pay to the said out of the first moneys or wages to be received by him by four equal quarterly payments the sum of six dollars now advanced to him.

— No. 2. —

(No. 6.)

No. 2. Right Hon. Sir J. S. Pakington, Bart., to Governor Barkly.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Honourable Sir *John S. Pakington*, Bart., to Governor *Barkly*.

Sir, Downing-street, 13 March, 1852.

9 March 1852.

WITH reference to my predecessor's despatch of the 13th ultimo, No. 448,* I transmit to you an extract from a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, in further explanation of the causes of delay in setting on foot an emigration of Chinese labourers to the West Indies,

* Page 72.

On the arrival of Mr. White in this country I will not fail to consider what steps can properly be taken by Her Majesty's Government on this subject.

I have, &c.
(signed) *John S. Pakington.*

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Encl. in No. 2.

Enclosure in No. 2.

EXTRACT of a Report from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners to *H. Merivale*, Esq., dated 1st March 1852.

"YOUR letter of the 23d ultimo transmits the copy of a despatch to Governor Barkly, explaining the cause of the delay which has occurred in setting on foot an immigration of Chinese labourers, and calls our attention to your letter of the 19th of January, from which we learnt that the government of Trinidad was anxious for the immediate introduction of Chinese immigrants.

"In reply to this letter we beg to state that we have repeatedly communicated on this subject with Mr. Macgregor, to whom we were referred by Lord Grey's desire, and that the delay in taking any steps for commencing this emigration has arisen from the desire of that gentleman, repeatedly expressed to us, that no definite arrangements should be entered into till the arrival of Mr. White in this country. We learn that this gentleman's departure from Calcutta has been unexpectedly delayed, but that he is now on his way to England, and may be expected in two or three weeks.

"It is perhaps desirable that we should state why we concur with Mr. Macgregor in thinking that the emigration should not be set on foot without communicating with Mr. White, and perhaps engaging his services as Government agent at the seat of emigration. The emigration is attended with considerable difficulties. Specific arrangements must be made for the treatment of the Chinese during the voyage; the mode of collecting them, and the seat of operations determined upon; terms of engagement must be framed, such as will secure acceptance by the West Indian employers, and be also fair to the Chinese, with due regard to the different claims of head men and others, and to the peculiar nature of the engagements under which alone the Chinese are found to work profitably. It is moreover important to remember that although a very large emigration does constantly proceed from Chinese ports to various points in the Indian seas, yet that all this emigration is, and that the West Indian emigration will be in contravention of the Chinese Law, and therefore a matter to be handled with much delicacy, especially when encouraged by Government.

"Under all these circumstances it has appeared to us that any hasty step might be productive of the greatest disadvantage, and that before moving it would be of the highest importance to arrange the details with Mr. White himself, if not also to place the conduct of the emigration in his hands; unless, therefore, we receive contrary instructions from Sir J. Pakington, we shall not take any further step in this matter till we are apprised of Mr. White's arrival.

"We should perhaps add, that we have reason to believe that Messrs. Hyde, Hodge and Co. have despatched two ships on their own account to bring emigrants from China to British Guiana, where a bounty of 100 dollars a head is payable on such emigrants under a recent proclamation."

— No. 3. —

(No. 76.)

No. 3.
Right Hon. Sir J. S. Pakington, Bart., to Governor Barkly.
1 November 1852.

28 October 1852.

COPY of a DESPATCH from the Right Hon. Sir *John S. Pakington*, Bart., to Governor *Barkly*.

Sir, Downing-street, 1 November 1852.

WITH reference to the previous communications which have passed between yourself and this department, on the subject of the emigration of labourers from China to the West Indies, I now transmit to you for your information a copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, showing the steps that have been taken for complying with the wishes of the Court of Policy on this matter.

I trust that the arrangements which have been made by the Commissioners under my sanction will prove satisfactory.

I have, &c.
(signed) *John S. Pakington.*

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Enclosure in No. 3.

Enclosure in No. 3.

(Immediate.)

Colonial Land and Emigration Office,
28 October 1852.

Sir,

1. With reference to our letter of the 9th instant, we beg to submit to Sir John Pakington, for the information of the authorities of British Guiana and Trinidad, the following account of our proceedings relative to Chinese emigration, from the period at which we were first directed totake measures for setting it on foot.

2. We begin with a statement of the steps taken with regard to British Guiana.

Enclosing Governor Barkly's Despatch, No. 124, 26 Aug. 1851.

3. On the 13th of October (1851) last, we received an intimation that the authorities of that colony had decided on commencing Chinese emigration, and were directed with this object to place ourselves in communication with the West India Committee, this we forthwith did; but it was the opinion of those gentlemen, in which we entirely concurred, that the emigration was one which could not be safely allowed to fall into chance hands, and that no steps should therefore be taken till it could be commenced under Government superintendence. With this view the committee desired that further proceedings should be postponed till the arrival in this country of Mr. White, who they hoped would undertake the management of the service in China.

Enclosing Governor Barkly's Despatch, No. 152, 31 Oct. 1851.

4. On the 16th of December last we were informed that the Court of Policy had decided on expending 50,000 *l.* of the guaranteed loan in the importation of Chinese, and was content to leave the conduct of the emigration to Her Majesty's Government; Governor Barkly, however, stated that it was generally thought best to arrange with some great mercantile firm for a fixed supply of labour at fixed rates.

5. Meantime, however, a bounty of 100 dollars was payable on Chinese emigrants, and as Mr. White's arrival was delayed longer than had been expected, we received a variety of applications from shipowners for information respecting this bounty. The course we pursued in such cases was substantially the same, simply to place at the disposal of the inquirers, if they chose to consult it, such information as we possessed, namely, the colonial ordinances. But we were unable to give them any authoritative, or, indeed, any opinion respecting the extent to which, under the terms of the colonial ordinance, a compliance with the English Passengers' Act would be insisted upon as a condition of receiving bounty. Under this uncertainty, and as certain provisions of the ordinance could not be literally complied with, only one firm in England, as far as we are aware, engaged in the enterprise, Messrs. Hyde, Hodge, and Co. Those gentlemen, whose experience of colonial matters, joined to the knowledge which they had obtained, that one or two ships had left British Guiana with the view of obtaining the bounty, led them to believe that they would run no risk in embarking in the enterprise, early informed us that they had decided to send two or three ships to China with this object.

6. On Mr. White's arrival in England in the beginning of June, an endeavour was made to persuade Messrs. Dent & Co. to take the emigration into their hands. It was supposed that their wealth, experience, and connexions would enable them to ensure a successful prosecution of the undertaking, and there was reason to believe that they would have undertaken it on terms of receiving a commission on the money expended, which it was further supposed by Mr. White, and by a partner in the house of Messrs. Dent, would not exceed 100 dollars a head. The West India Committee were extremely desirous that these terms should be accepted, but Messrs. Dent, in the event, declined to take the conduct of the matter, and the committee expressed their desire that Mr. White should be sent out as a Government agent, with a salary of 1,000 *l.*, to run on continuously from his first appointment as agent for the colonies.

See next page.

7. To this proposal we believe, after some negotiation with the committee, Mr. White acceded, and accordingly left England for China by the mail steamer of August; his formal appointment was delayed from the necessity of communicating with the Foreign Office, but that appointment, with the necessary instructions, were transmitted to him by the last post. We enclose a copy of the instructions, as revised and approved by the Secretary of State.

8. But before Mr. White's appointment it had been ascertained that measures had been taken for a far larger bounty emigration than had been originally imagined, Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co. having in fact instructed their agent in China to ship, if possible, no less than 1,200 emigrants for British Guiana. And it appeared probable that the ships despatched with the same object from the colony would raise this number to nearly 1,700, at an expense to the colony (if all were landed alive) of 34,000 *l.*

9. This being the state of the money applicable to this service, it was obvious that no large number of ships could be safely engaged in England. We proposed to take up two, and the West India Committee were anxious that at least that number should be engaged in England, if the freight were below 16 *l.*; but on advertising for tenders only one was sent in, that of the ship "Martin Luther," which we engaged (as ultimately arranged) at the rate of 16 *l.* 7 *s.* per statute adult. It will be seen by the charter party (of which we enclose a copy) that she is to be placed at the disposal of Mr. White, at Hong Kong, on the

the 1st of February, which will enable the ship to leave China before the setting in of the south-west monsoon (a point on which the West India Committee have uniformly expressed great anxiety), and also to secure a tolerable passage round the Cape of Good Hope.

10. We have instructed Mr. White that he will be at liberty to take up further shipping for the service on the spot; but under the circumstances, we have been unable to lay down the limits of his expenditure more definitely, than by informing him of the liabilities actually incurred, or likely to accrue, and instructing him to ascertain the extent to which bounty emigration has actually been carried on, and to expend the remaining balance, leaving a margin of 2,000 *l.* for accidental expenses, over and above the deductions from the bounties which may arise from deaths on the voyage.

11. We have also instructed Mr. White, that in filling ships, it will be sufficient to allow the space of 12 feet per statute adult required by the Indian Law, instead of 15, as required by the Passengers' Act, which, of course, does not extend to an emigration from a foreign country. We have felt justified (on the suggestion of the West India Committee) in making this relaxation, because the ventilation and fitting of the ships employed will be now subject to the inspection of a government officer; because it appeared probable that the Indian Government would have exercised a sound judgment as to the space required for orientals, and because we found that the emigration from Madras, which was conducted on that principle, had been very healthy; the average mortality amounting only to 147 per cent. The far larger mortality in the Calcutta ships is well known to have proceeded from cholera.

12. We now proceed to state the steps which we have taken with regard to Trinidad. By your letter of the 19th of January 1852, we were informed that this colony desired the introduction of 1,000 Chinese, but on the grounds already mentioned, we concurred with the West India Committee, that it would be better to defer the commencement of the emigration till it could be set on foot by Government. For a long time, therefore, we took no steps in consequence of your letter, but when we learnt that emigration to British Guiana was already set on foot by private persons, we felt that the planters of Trinidad might be very naturally discontented if they heard of arrivals in the sister colony, while they were deprived of any corresponding supply of labourers, with an alleged object, which those very arrivals showed to have failed. We also felt uncertain how far the expressed wishes of the West India Committee (to whom no reference had been made in your letter of the 19th January) would be considered by the Trinidad colonists as justifying our inaction; but we entirely concurred with the committee in their reluctance to allow the new and delicate operation of collecting emigrants in a country like China, to fall into the hands of chance tenderers, and we therefore thought it the safest course to request Mr. Hodge to send to Trinidad one of the ships ("The Clarendon") which he had informed us he was about to send to British Guiana, and on the same terms on which he was to send them to that colony. This arrangement was subsequently extended to two other ships, which will exhaust the whole number which we are directed to send to Trinidad. Of the ships thus engaged, the "Clarendon," it is hoped, will have shipped her emigrants at Amoy in September. The "Australia," a ship capable of carrying, under the Passengers' Act, about 556 persons, was to arrive there before the 15th of November. The third would be taken up in China.

13. Our engagement with Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co. (of which we enclose a copy for transmission to Trinidad) was made before Government superintendence could be counted upon, and we have accordingly required the space of 15 feet for every adult. But we anticipate that one, if not two of these ships will, in fact, fall under Mr. White's superintendence, and with reference to the last of the three ships, we have instructed that gentleman, that if he finds he can do so with advantage to the colony, he will be at liberty to be satisfied with a space of 12 feet, and also (having reference to the difficulty of procuring ships of precisely the required size) to allow the shipment of somewhat more than the exact number of 1,000.

14. We rust that these arrangements will be satisfactory to the colonies concerned; but we would point out that we shall now have exhausted the sums applicable to this emigration, and that we ought to receive an intimation what fresh sums will be devoted to it in time to take up shipping for the next season, which, with the double object of securing the benefit of the monsoon, and avoiding the winter passage round the Cape, should, we think, be confined as much as possible within the period now allotted to the Calcutta emigration, namely, from September to February (or March) inclusive.

We have, &c.

Herman Merivale, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Sub-Enclosure to Enclosure in No. 3.

Colonial Land and Emigration Office,
23 October 1852.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners to inform you that the Secretary of State has appointed you to the office of Government Emigration Agent at the Port of Victoria, and at such other ports on or near the coast of China as the Governor of Hong Kong shall designate. You will please to understand that the service to which

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you are thus appointed being of very doubtful duration, the appointment is not of a permanent nature, or such as to give rise to a claim for compensation for loss of office.

2. Your duties will have relation first to a bounty emigration which is at present in progress to British Guiana and Trinidad, and next to such further emigration as shall be set on foot under Government superintendence to these or to any other West India colonies.

3. Arrangements have been sanctioned by Her Majesty's Government for sending three ships on bounty to Trinidad; and there is reason to suppose that private shipowners have taken steps in pursuance of a recent colonial ordinance to import about 1,700 Chinese into British Guiana. It is probable that these emigrants will be dispatched from Amoy. But this it will be your duty, in the first place, to ascertain, and to use the influence which you possess as Government agent to facilitate or secure their judicious selection and proper treatment. You will probably find little difficulty in effecting this, as regards Trinidad, the matters being in the hands of a single shipowner, who has contracted with this Board to supply a dietary approved by this Board, and toplace no greater number of emigrants on board than is allowed by the Passengers' Act. As regards British Guiana, you will observe by the eighth clause of the ordinance, No. 20 of 1851, every vessel taking emigrants from a port for which you are appointed agent will be unable to obtain bounty unless furnished by you with a certain list and certificate. If you should find that the authority given by this ordinance could be exercised with advantage in any Chinese port you will request the Governor of Hong Kong to designate that as one of the ports for which you are to act as Government agent.

4. It will not be at present necessary to send any emigrants to Trinidad beyond those whose conveyance is already provided. To British Guiana as great a number should be sent out as with those who may be dispatched on bounty can be paid for by the sum of 50,000 *l.*, which has been appropriated to that purpose by the legislature of British Guiana. You will, however, receive by this post more specific instructions respecting the number of emigrants to be sent out, and the mode of providing shipping.

5. You are yourself fully aware of the class of emigrants required for the West Indies; but I am to impress upon you the extreme importance, both morally and economically, of sending as large a proportion of females as possible.

6. With the male labourers you will be authorised to make contracts, if possible, on the terms laid down by the Court of Policy of British Guiana, in a Minute from which I annex an extract. But if possible, you will consider yourself at liberty to increase the proposed advance authorised by that Minute, especially in the case of women, and to offer wages amounting to five dollars a head per month, with food and lodging, or seven dollars without such allowance. These contracts, as you are aware, may be made for five years, but are determinable by the emigrant at the end of each year, and should be made with the formalities prescribed by the 5th clause of the British Guiana Ordinance, No. 22 of 1851.

7. You will also be authorised to incur the expense necessary for procuring and sending out at least one competent interpreter in each ship, and, of course, those contingent on the collection of the emigrants and their maintenance for a short period before their embarkation.

8. Your salary will be at the rate of 1,000 *l.* per annum; and you will be considered to have been continuously in the employment of Government at that rate of salary since the date of your first appointment in September 1850. For this salary, as well as for your travelling expenses, and for the sums which you are authorised to expend in the collection and shipping of emigrants, not exceeding, until further orders, 2,000 *l.*, you will be at liberty to draw bills upon this Board at not less than 30 days' sight, transmitting to them, however, proper advices of such drafts, and furnishing them with quarterly accounts, countersigned by the Governor of Hong Kong, who should also certify, as required by the British Guiana Ordinance already referred to, that, as far as he knows, the expenditure has been incurred in conducting the emigration of Chinese to the West Indies, and appears to him just and reasonable.

9. The freight of any ships which you may engage in China should be made payable by bills drawn by the Governor of British Guiana or the Commissioners, at not less than 30 days' sight.

10. In conclusion, the Commissioners are directed by Sir John Pakington to apprise you, that Her Majesty's Government have undertaken to authorise the expenditure of public money and the employment of public agency in promoting emigration from China, under the impression that the law of the Chinese empire against the emigration of its subjects, which is said to have once existed, has fallen into desuetude; but that if the fact should prove to be otherwise, and if the Chinese government or public authorities should insist upon that law having present force and effect, and should consequently oppose the emigration, it will be your duty at once to desist from any operations within the territory of China (if any should have been there carried on, either by you or by any persons acting under your authority and direction), which may involve a contravention of that law.

I have, &c.
(signed) *S. Walcott,*
Secretary.

J. T. White, Esq.

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EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Proceedings of the Court of Policy, held 25 August 1851.

YOUR Committee would, therefore, respectfully recommend . . . . . As it appears that the Chinese labourers require to be guaranteed a certain rate of wages for the period of service, we recommend the emigration agent, at the port of embarkation in China, to be instructed to engage them at wages not exceeding four dollars per month, and the scale of allowance of food as stated in the annexed memorandum, stating at the same time, that if they should prefer to be paid at the same rate for the work they perform, they finding their own provisions as other labourers in the colony, they would have the option of doing so.

That the emigration agent be authorised to advance a sum not exceeding 10 dollars to each effective emigrant before embarkation, to be repaid by instalments in British Guiana.

Scale of allowance of food for Chinese emigrants, being similar to that fixed for African ships:—

Biscuit - - - - - -	½ lb.
Rice - - - - - -	½ lb.
Beef, pork, or salt fish - - -	½ lb.

Women to receive the same rations as men.

— No. 4. —

(No. 7.)

No. 4.
Duke of Newcastle to Governor Barkly.
26 January 1853.

COPY of a DESPATCH from his Grace the Duke of *Newcastle* to Governor *Barkly*.

Sir, Downing-street, 26 January 1853.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 2d October last, No. 156,* transmitting a copy of a proclamation you had issued, notifying the reduction, in the case of vessels clearing from British Guiana after the 31st March last, of the bounty on Chinese immigrants from 100 to 80 dollars.

* Page 8.

I concur with you that it would have been better that the former proclamation should have been withdrawn altogether upon the completion of the arrangements for carrying on this service, under the superintendence of Mr. White, and I think it is not improbable that the Court of Policy may have adopted the same idea upon the receipt of my predecessor's despatch of the 1st November last, No. 76.†

† Page 91.

But, under any circumstances, I think it is absolutely necessary for ensuring the proper conveyance of these people, that the payment of the bounty should be made contingent, in addition to other regulations, on obtaining a certificate from Mr. White, that the vessel has been cleared with his sanction.

I have, &c.,
(signed) *Newcastle.*

— No. 5. —

(No. 10.)

No. 5
Duke of Newcastle to Governor Barkly.
31 January 1853.

COPY of a DESPATCH from his Grace the Duke of *Newcastle* to Governor *Barkly*.

Sir, Downing-street, 31 January 1853.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, copies of two letters from the Foreign Department, forwarding copies of despatches and other documents, received from Dr. Bowring, relating to the emigration of Chinese labourers.

4 Dec. 1852.
27 Dec. 1852.
7 January 1853.

I also enclose a copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, to whom these papers have been referred.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Newcastle.*

BRITISH GUIANA.

Enclosure 1, in No. 5.

Encl. 1, in No. 5.

No. 127, 25 Sept. 1852.*
13 Sept. 1852.*

Sir, Foreign Office, 4 December 1852.

I AM directed by the Earl of Malmesbury to transmit to you, for the information of Secretary Sir John Pakington, a copy and an extract of two despatches from Dr. Bowring relative to the emigration of Chinese coolies.

I am, &c.
(signed) *H. U. Addington.*

H. Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 2, in No. 5.

Encl. 2, in No. 5.

1 October 1852.†

Sir, Foreign Office, 27 December 1852.

WITH reference to my letter of the 4th instant, I am directed by the Earl of Malmesbury to transmit to you herewith, to be laid before Secretary Sir John Pakington, copies of further despatches from Dr. Bowring, respecting the emigration of Chinese coolies, and also a letter under flying seal from Dr. Bowring to the Governor of British Guiana on the same subject.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. U. Addington.*

Enclosure 3, in No 5.

Encl. 3, in No 5.

Colonial Land and Emigration Office,
7 January 1853.

Sir,

1. WE beg to acknowledge your letter of the 18th ultimo, enclosing the copy of a letter from the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, in which he transmits the following documents relating to Chinese emigration :—

1. A letter from the Superintendent of Trade at Hong Kong, respecting the means of preventing abuses in English ships concerned in that trade.

2, 3, and 4. Letters from the consuls at Canton and Shanghae, and from the first assistant at the Amoy Consulate, containing answers to a list of queries proposed by Lord Malmesbury's directions to the consuls at Chinese ports.

2. We also take this opportunity of enclosing the copy of a letter which we have received from Mr. White, the recently appointed emigration agent in China, reporting the first steps which he had taken on his arrival at Hong Kong.

3. The mutinies and loss of life which have taken place on board the "Lady Montague," and other vessels conveying Chinese emigrants, have led the English Government to consider whether any measures could be taken for imposing rules on this emigration so far as it is carried on in British ships. Such rules might be enacted by the Legislature of Hong Kong, or by Order in Council under the Act 6 & 7 Vict. c. 80, but if so passed they would only be binding in China, and within 100 miles of the coast. In order to give them a greater extension, the consul at Shanghae urges that they should be imposed by Act of Parliament.

4. We would point out, however, that under any circumstances it would be very difficult to enforce the law against any British ship after it has left China for any foreign country; so that in this case the Legislature of Hong Kong would be competent to enact almost all that could practically be carried into effect.

5. But Dr. Bowring observes that, even in China, any British law could only be enforced through the British Consuls, and that the persons concerned in the emigration could, with the support or connivance of the Chinese authorities (which would be readily obtained), ship their emigrants at places at which no British consular authority existed, and in which consequently the ships would escape even the general check on their proceedings which is derived from the presence of such an authority. If this be so, it appears to us to present a very great obstacle to the enforcement of any effective regulations on ships (even though British)

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* These despatches will be found printed at pp. 6 to 18 of "Correspondence with the Superintendent of British Trade in China upon the subject of Emigration from that country," presented to The House of Commons by command of Her Majesty, 20th August 1853.

† This despatch will be found printed at p. 18 of "Correspondence with the Superintendent of British Trade in China upon the subject of Emigration from that country," presented to The House of Commons by command of Her Majesty, 20th August 1853.

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British) proceeding from China to any other foreign country. It is, however, possible that if penalties were imposed on any British ship which took in passengers before receiving a certificate from the Consul of the seaworthiness and other necessary matters, or took in a greater number than was allowed by that certificate; and if in the first instance the power thus given was exercised with caution and forbearance, shipowners might not find it worth their while to resort to other places of embarkation; and, if they did, the emigration from the great ports might obtain a superior character for safety and accommodation, which would draw emigrants, and consequently the emigrant trade thither. This, however, appears to be a matter to be considered by the Foreign Office and Board of Trade, who are best able to estimate what can be effected at their foreign ports. In any case it is to be hoped that, as these mutinies are said to have arisen from want of consideration for the Chinese, shipowners will find themselves obliged, by motives of mere self interest, to consult the feelings of those for whose conveyance they undertake; and we should point out that the Assistant-consul at Amoy expresses his opinion that the crowding of vessels has not been carried so far as might have been expected in an unregulated trade, and that the amount of provisions put on board has generally been ample.

6. The emigration to British colonies is more susceptible of regulation, as a check can be applied at the port of disembarkation.

7. That to Australia is conducted as a matter of private speculation, without any aid from Government; but we are not aware that hitherto any abuses have occurred in it. We would recommend that the authorities in New South Wales and Victoria should be directed to watch the emigration, and in case any serious abuses should come to light or appear probable, to propose to the Legislature an Act imposing penalties on all ships bringing immigrants to those colonies in which it should appear that a certain portion of space had not been allotted to the emigrants, or a certain issue of provisions made regularly to them throughout the voyage, or that the ship had left China in an unseaworthy state. The details of such a measure it would, of course, be for the local authorities to determine.

8. The emigration to the West Indies is as yet in its commencement; probably by this time five or six ships will have left China for Demerara or Trinidad. This emigration, with the exception of a few ships proceeding on bounty to British Guiana, will be entirely conducted by Mr. White, the recently appointed Emigration Agent. Over this, therefore, the control of Government is complete, and no abuse is to be apprehended; and the proceedings of private ships may be controlled, from the circumstance that the bounty on Chinese emigrants is not legally claimable (Ordinances 20 and 22 of 1851), unless the ship bringing them to the colony shall have been inspected, and proper certificates given by the Government Emigration Agent at the port of departure. It will be seen by reference to the Instructions first issued to Mr. White that this point has been fully attended to. We are indeed ourselves of opinion that Government emigration being now set on foot, the bounty might very properly be withdrawn. There are evident inconveniences in the concurrent existence of two systems of emigration, one of which is, that a given sum being voted for emigration, it is impossible to predict with certainty how much will be claimed by persons importing immigrants on bounty, and by consequence how much remains available for purely Government emigration. Commissioners' Report, 28 Oct.

8(b). But if the bounty be retained, we think the clauses requiring the certificate of the Government Emigration Agent, as a condition of its payment, should be more clearly framed. They should, we think, declare that bounty should not be payable on Chinese immigrants except they were shipped at ports at which a Government Agent had been appointed, nor without a certificate from him, or some person deputed by him, stating the number of emigrants placed on board; that the ship was seaworthy; that a space of 12 superficial and 72 cubical feet per adult was allowed to the passengers; that provisions and water equal to 25 weeks' supply, on a scale to be fixed by the Emigration Agent, had been placed on board; nor unless it appeared that the emigrants had been well treated on the voyage, and provisions issued according to the above-mentioned scale.

9. The enclosures to Dr. Bowring's despatch contain merely matters of information, from which, however, it may be useful to select some leading facts bearing on the prospects of the emigration. The statements of the different consular authorities are so much of the same character with each other, and with the reports previously received from Mr. White and others, that they need not be separately stated.

10. The Chinese appear to be valuable immigrants, fitted for labour in the West Indies, and ready to leave their country in almost any numbers. From Amoy alone it is said that 6,000 or, with improved facilities, 12,000 emigrants might be procured annually. The Canton people are said by the Consul to be strong, intelligent, thrifty, industrious, and of all Chinese the best adapted for labour in the West Indies. Those of Amoy are described as persevering, and sufficiently robust, but slow. A large average of industrious and quiet labourers might be procured there, though it is not to be expected (nor indeed desired) that persons better off in the world would emigrate to the West Indies. The Shanghae people are good humoured and fairly industrious, but they do not bear to be hurried or kept too close to their work. Without a certain amount of idling and holiday-making they become sulky and impracticable.

11. The wages of an ordinary labourer* near Canton appear to be at most two dollars a month with his rice; and in the neighbourhood of Amoy 3 *d.* or 4 *d.* a day without any such allowance. * *P.S.*—11 Jan. And at Ningpo.

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allowance. A first-class labourer, possessing somewhat of agricultural science, may obtain 6 *d.* They would be ready to emigrate on the terms offered by the West Indies, especially after some of them had gone out and returned with their gains, or with a good account of the country. With this view it is recommended that return passages should be given to a few of the immigrants soon after their arrival in the West Indies. And Mr. White expresses his intention to engage two or three respectable men on short contracts for two or three years, to be sent back (free, we presume) at the end of that term. Indentures are recommended, both for the safety of the importer and the satisfaction of the Chinese, by whom they are generally well understood. And the contracts in use for the West Indies (which offer food, lodging, medical attendance, and four dollars a month) are considered liberal and sufficient.

12. It appears to be, at least for the present, impracticable to set on foot any female emigration, except by the simple purchase of women, a proceeding which, independently of other objections, would, it is said, give great umbrage.

13. The* Chinese law comprises apparently some constructive prohibition of emigration; but it appears wholly obsolete. Emigrants are collected by the publication of placards, and are sent off in thousands from Canton and Amoy. The following table shows the numbers despatched in the last few years from Canton and those who left Amoy under contract with foreigners.

	1848.	1849.	1850.	1851.	1852.
Canton - - -	10	900	3,118	3,508	First 6 months, 17,025
Amoy - - -	120	280	1,000	2,066	First 8 months, 1,739

But besides this, the Assistant-Consul speaks of "a flood of 50,000 able-bodied men" as emigrating annually from the province of Fokien, under what are called native contracts. Only a few hundred Chinese have left Shanghae. But these numbers are sufficient to show that the Chinese authorities do not seriously oppose emigration. Indeed it is said the attempt to do so would excite resistance and greatly aggravate the disturbances which take place in the famines which occur periodically in China, and for which the officers attempting to enforce the law would be made responsible. The only interference which appears to be considered probable is that of exacting bribes from the Chinese crimps and agents in case anything occurred which was likely to become a scandal.

14. There is reason to hope that the collection and conveyance of these emigrants may eventually cost less than the 100 dollars originally fixed as a bounty in British Guiana; the conveyance being estimated at† from 12 *l.* 10 *s.* to 15 *l.* a head, while the expenses of collection appear to be trifling. We feel much doubt, however, whether it will be practicable to reduce the cost of emigration so much as these figures would indicate. We learn from a letter lately received from Mr. White, that the bounty for Havannah is as much as 125 dollars, and that the profits of the contractor are not estimated at more than 40 dollars, leaving 85 dollars or about 18 *l.* as the cost of collection and conveyance.

† *P. S.* 11 Jan.—The consul at Amoy estimates it at 17 *l.*

15. We shall not fail to bear in mind so far as they have not been anticipated, the various suggestions of detail respecting the conveyance of the emigrants which these papers contain, but with these it is unnecessary to trouble the Secretary of State. Those which regard the securing of Government superintendence have been in a great measure either anticipated by the appointment of Mr. White, or answered by Dr. Bowring.

16. Mr. Winchester also supplies some interesting information with regard to the prosperous emigration of Chinese to the Malayan Archipelago, and their less fortunate passages to America. The details which he mentions do not bear much on West Indian emigration; but it is perhaps worth observing that the planters in Cuba find it worth their while to import Chinese labourers, at 125 dollars a head, in order that they may employ them at wages amounting to 3 dollars a month, besides rations. The fact may throw some light on the cost and profits of sugar growing in Cuba, the rival of our free colonies.

17. In conclusion, we have only to suggest that copies of these papers should be sent to the colonies of Jamaica, British Guiana and Trinidad, to whom every information must be important

* *P.S.*, Jan. 11.—The state of the Chinese law is rather more specifically stated by Mr. Parkes. It appears that it is occasionally so far enforced, that the property amassed by emigrants is, on their return to China, wholly or in part confiscated for emigration, without license. This, however, bears the aspect of mere extortion, and of course would counteract *pro tanto* the alleged desire of all Chinese emigrants to return to their country.

important respecting the character and management of the immigrants whom they are about to receive.

18. We would also recommend that copies of Mr. White's letter should be sent to the colonies of British Guiana and Trinidad, with reference especially to Mr. White's intention, judicious as we think, to guarantee two or three back passages. We should, however, explain that the delay in sending out Mr. White's instructions, to which that gentleman refers, arose from the necessity of obtaining the concurrence of the Foreign Office, and that the employment of Messrs. Tait & Co. is a circumstance arising out of the bounty emigration of this year. If that mode of emigration is discontinued it will be open to Mr. White to suggest a different mode of proceeding for the next season.

We have, &c.

(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

P. S.—Jan. 11.—Since writing the above report we have received your letter of the same date (7th instant), enclosing two further despatches from Dr. Bowring, with memoranda from the Consuls at Amoy and Ningpo, and from a gentleman named Parkes, who appears to act as Chinese interpreter at Hong Kong.

This latter memorandum, and the despatch enclosing it, contain some interesting information respecting emigration to the neighbouring countries, and especially respecting the organization of the Chinese emigrants in Java, under a species of municipal board of their own countrymen. We should apprehend, however, that such a system would be scarcely desirable in the West Indies: first, because the Chinese must, to a certain extent, be dispersed in small bodies through the sugar estates, and not collected in one large body; secondly, because we imagine it would promote isolation, instead of the amalgamation of the immigrants; thirdly, because the principal questions of law which would arise would be between them and their employers, which must be settled by British law and British judges; and lastly, because the law courts of the colony would, we trust, amply secure to the immigrants that justice and freedom which in Java can perhaps be only attained by this kind of *imperium in imperio.*

It will by seen by Mr. White's letter (annexed) that the proposal of Messrs. Turner & Co. to procure labourers in the neighbourhood of Canton, to which Dr. Bowring objects, originated with him, and we are aware that he expected to obtain a supply of useful persons from that neighbourhood. As he states himself to be in free communication with Dr. Bowring, it cannot be doubted that the advantages and disadvantages of the different localities will be fully considered; it is a question which evidently can best be settled on the spot.

The slender information given in the consular letters now forwarded, so nearly coincides with what had been already received, that it merely requires theaddition to our report of two or three marginal notes, which will be found in their places.

Sub-Enclosure to Enclosure 3, in No. 5.

Sir, Hong Kong, 15 October 1852.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that I arrived here on the 10th instant.

On the evening of that day I proceeded to Canton, in order to place myself in communication with Messrs. Turner & Co., who have been authorised by Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co., to attend to the shipment of emigrant labourers for Demerara and Trinidad.

I returned from Canton on the 14th, and shall leave this for Amoy on the 17th, and I write this some days in advance of the mail, in case I should not find any opportunity of writing from Amoy.

The instructions which I expected to receive by this mail, *viâ* Marseilles, have not come to hand; I shall, however, act in accordance with what I conceive to be the spirit of my instructions, and shall meanwhile use every effort in my power to forward the emigration of labourers, and to place it on a satisfactory footing.

I had a long interview yesterday with his Excellency Dr. Bowring, the Superintendent of Trade; he stated to me fully the views which he entertains on the subject of Chinese emigration to the West Indies, and has no doubt of its ultimate success, provided the system be well organised, and fairly and honestly carried out.

Several cases of great mortality, of mutiny and murder having occurred recently on board of vessels bound to Peru and Panama, with Chinese labourers, he has thought it necessary to issue a notification having reference to British vessels engaged in the transport of coolies; a copy of which (marked A.) is annexed for your information. As far as my information goes, all these cases have occurred through, and have been occasioned by gross mismanagement on board, or bad treatment on the part of the commanders of vessels engaged in the

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service. The food has been bad, or the supply inadequate, or the peculiar customs and habits of the emigrants have been unnecessarily interfered with. Harsh treatment has been followed by resistance, and mutiny and murder have brought the voyage to an unhappy termination. It is alleged that some emigrants engaged to go to San Francisco, in California, have been carried to Lima in Peru; and that others engaged as agricultural labourers for Peru, have been on their arrival there transferred, in a condition little, if at all, better than slaves, to the Guano Islands, where many of them have sought in suicide a relief for their miseries. It is to be regretted that the Government of Peru does not take steps to regulate this emigration, and to put it on a proper footing. The labour of the Chinese is invaluable to the Peruvians, but the emigration, as now conducted, is open to every possible abuse.

The "Glentanner" left Amoy on the 1st September, and the "Lord Elgin" on the 16th. I have not been able to ascertain the exact number on board of each vessel. The "Lord Elgin" had left Singapore two days before my arrival there in the steamer on the 1st instant, and I was informed that the emigrants were all well, and had expressed themselves satisfied with the food and the treatment they had received. The "Samuel Boddington" is now lying at Amoy, and the "Lucknow" left this for Amoy a few days ago. At present I am not aware when the "Samuel Boddington" is likely to get away. All these vessels are for British Guiana.

I have been informed that emigrants do not come forward at Amoy as readily as was anticipated. One reason for this may be that the people have been engaged in harvesting their rice, and will not leave until that has been secured for the benefit of their families, but I apprehend that the principal reason is the account they have received of bad treatment and cruelty on board some of the emigrant vessels, and of the deception practised on the emigrants in regard to their future destination. With a knowledge of these facts, it is not to be expected that men should come forward to emigrate (being ignorant of the country to which they are going), unless driven to it by actual and pressing necessity.

Looking to the apparent difficulty under present circumstances of obtaining readily good labourers at Amoy, I have intimated to Messrs. Turner & Co., that it would be desirable to try one vessel with emigrants from the districts along the Canton River. Tung Kwan, which is a sugar-growing district, was strongly recommended by Dr. Gutzlaff, and efforts will be made to obtain labourers from that quarter. The "Clarendon," expected to arrive, will be placed on this service for Trinidad.

Messrs. Turner & Co., agents of Hyde, Hodge & Co., with whom the Commissioners made arrangements for procuring and conveying emigrants to the West Indies, have their establishment at Canton. They have no establishment at Amoy, but have appointed Messrs. Tait & Co. who are resident at Amoy, to procure labourers for the vessels sent out by Hyde, Hodge & Co. as they arrive. Messrs. Tait & Co. are a very respectable house, but they are engaged to supply labourers for Cuba, and I consider it objectionable that the same party should have the shipment of labourers to the British West Indies, at the same time they are engaged in sending labourers to Cuba.

Mr. Wardrop, a gentleman connected with the Havana, and partner in a firm there, is now at Amoy. It is said that he holds a contract under the Spanish Government for 8,000 Chinese labourers, and is to receive a bounty of 125 dollars on every emigrant landed at the Havana. It is evident that he is in a better position to procure emigrants on the bounty of 125 dollars than other parties are, on behalf of British Guiana and Trinidad, who are limited to the sum of 100 dollars. Common rumour asserts that he expects to realise 40 dollars upon every emigrant landed in Cuba.

There is also an agent here on behalf of certain parties in Peru, who hold contracts for the supply of labourers, from the Peruvian Government. I have not been able to ascertain the exact terms on which this gentleman is authorized to obtain labourers; but he goes up to Amoy in a few days to carry out the object of his mission. The additional demand for labour thus created will enhance for a time the difficulty for procuring emigrants for the West Indies. Some vessels are also expected from Australia to take down labourers to that quarter; and notices of the gold diggings, with the regulations in force there, have been circulated here in English and Chinese, in order to induce a feeling favourable to that emigration. The emigration to California has ceased for the present, owing to the regulations in force there.

It is my intention to engage two or three respectable men, on a short contract of one or two years, to be sent back at the end of that term. If confidence can once be instilled into the minds of the Chinese, any amount of emigration will readily be obtained; but they will believe nothing until some of their own countrymen return here, to tell their own tale. It is my intention also to inform them, that letters for their friends may be forwarded once a month, and that remittances of money to their friends and relations will be taken care of, and forwarded by Government. At present, and at the commencement of this new emigration, I consider these three points essential, as a means to instil confidence. The slight expense they may occasion will be more than compensated by the favourable results.

I trust that the Government, and my fellow colonists will not expect too much at first. It is certain that any given number of emigrants may be sent forward within a given time; but looking to the future, they will do well to be satisfied with a smaller at the commencement of this emigration. As the Chinese acquire confidence, they will come forward more readily; and as soon as it becomes manifest to them that the emigrants are prosperous in the

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the new country to which they have transferred their labour, there will be no lack of able, willing, and effective hands eager to emigrate. I feel satisfied that this emigration, surely and steadily conducted, although slow at first, will be found more conducive to the ultimate interests of the colonies than any convulsive and unregulated efforts.

I need not enter into any further details at present, as my information is but superficial; but I beg to assure the Commissioners that I will leave no effort untried to promote the object of my mission. Difficulties must be expected at the commencement of this new enterprise, but the country overflows with a population who are willing to emigrate, and there must be gross mismanagement somewhere if it do not lead to a favourable and satisfactory issue.

I have, &c.
(signed) *James T. White.*

— No. 6. —

(No. 20.)

NO. 6. Duke of Newcastle to Governor Barkly. 28 February 1853.

COPY of a DESPATCH from His Grace the Duke of *Newcastle* to Governor *Barkly*.

Sir, Downing-street, 28 February 1853.

WITH reference to my despatch to the 31st ultimo, I transmit to you a copy of a letter from the Foreign department, enclosing copy of a further one from Dr. Bowring in reference to the emigration of the Chinese, together with a copy of a report from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners on the subject. 20 January 1853. 18 February 1853.

You will examine into and report on the allegations contained in the last paragraph of Dr. Bowring's letter, as suggested by the Commissioners.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Newcastle.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 6.

Sir, Foreign Office, 20 January 1853.

WITH reference to my letter of the 27th ultimo, I am directed by Lord John Russell to transmit to you, for the information of his Grace the Duke of Newcastle, a copy of a further despatch from Dr. Bowring respecting the emigration of coolies from China. 20 Nov. 1852.*

I am, &c.
(signed) *H. U. Addington.*

H. Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 2, in No. 6.

Colonial Land and Emigration Office,
Sir, 18 February 1853.

1. WE beg to acknowledge your letter of the 29th ultimo, enclosing a letter from the Foreign Office, with a despatch addressed by Dr. Bowring to the Secretary for Foreign Affairs respecting emigration from China.

2. This letter states, on the authority of Commander Fishbourne, of the "Hermes," that the accommodation of the emigrants at Amoy, while in depôt previous to embarkation, was very bad; that some appeared not to be free agents, but escaped when they could; that others who refused to embark were allowed to leave; and that others objected to the treatment, but considered it better than starvation in their own country.

3. It is evidently probable that the crimps and others employed in the various emigrations to Cuba, Peru, California, Australia, and the West Indies, have been guilty of malpractices.

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* This despatch will be found printed at p. 28 of "Correspondence with the Superintendent of British Trade in China upon the subject of Emigration from that country," presented to the House of Commons by command of Her Majesty, 20th August 1853.

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practices. But we fear that the British government would find it very difficult to prescribe the treatment which Chinese (apparently paupers) should receive before embarkation, except in cases where the emigration was carried on directly or indirectly by Government funds.

4. Nor are the statements of Commander Fishbourne sufficient alone to justify any decisive interference in the matter. Part of them seem to be explicable, by the circumstance that the Chinese insist on an advance of some dollars from the contractor with whom they engage. They are, therefore, of course under an inducement to escape from him if they can, and obtain a second bounty from a second person. We shall, however, request Mr. White, who, in conducting West Indian emigration, will necessarily be brought into contact with emigrants to other countries, to furnish us with the best information he can collect on this subject.

5. With regard to the general repression of malpractices in British ships we have little to add to the suggestions contained in our report of the 7th ultimo. Something would of course be gained, even in regard to emigration between China and foreign countries, if regulations were established by or under authority of an Act of Parliament, as in that case the penalties of disobedience might be enforceable against the ship, if she returned to this country. But the greatest difficulty would exist in procuring a conviction under such an Act, unless a very wide departure from the ordinary rules of evidence were authorised by it; and it appears to us that a case is hardly yet made out for such an exceptional procedure. If the case were sufficiently grave to justify the employment of Government cruisers in watching this traffic, it would of course be far easier to give effect to any law which might be passed on the subject. But this, we presume, would scarcely be contemplated.

6. Dr. Bowring adds that he is informed that 1,000 emigrants are to be shipped at Namoa for Demerara, that an unusual number of them are boys, whose parents have claimed them in vain, and that very many have escaped on their way to the emigrant ships.

7. It will perhaps be remembered that Mr. White has expressed his hope that he should obtain emigrants at Namoa, and by the subjoined list of ships recently dispatched from China on the part of Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co., it will be seen that the "Australia" took 445 coolies (represented to us by Mr. Hodge as being all adults) to Trinidad. We should confidently anticipate that the report which had reached Dr. Bowring would prove unfounded, but we shall transmit a copy of his despatch to Mr. White for such explanation as he may be able to offer on the subject.

8. We would suggest that copies should also be sent to the Governors of Jamaica, British Guina, and Trinidad, in order that they may examine into the allegations contained in the last paragraph. But we do not think that the colony could properly be required to send back any Chinese who stated himself to have been seduced or kidnapped. Nor, we think, would it be safe on such evidence (even could it be legally done) to refuse the usual bounty to the importers. On this point, however, the colonial authorities will be best able to judge.

9. We learn that the "Glentanner" has arrived at Demerara with Chinese emigrants. We presume that the next mail will bring the official report of her condition on arrival, and the state of the immigrants.

10. Besides that ship, the following vessels of Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co. are stated to us by these gentlemen to have left China for the West Indies with emigrants:—

SHIP.	Date of Departure.	Port of Departure.	Destination.	Number of Emigrants.
	1852:			
Samuel Boddington -	24 Nov. -	Amoy -	Demarara -	308 adults, 44 boys.
Australia - - -	14 Dec. -	Namoa -	Trinidad -	445.
Clarendon - -	26 Dec. -	Whampoa -	Ditto -	257.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

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— No. 7. —

(No. 26.)

No. 7. Duke of Newcastle to Governor Barkly. 22 March 1853.

COPY of a DESPATCH from His Grace the Duke of *Newcastle* to Governor *Barkly*.

Sir, Downing-street, 22 March 1853.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith an extract from a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, transmitting copies of two letters received from Mr. White, the agent for conducting Chinese emigration, reporting the progress that had been made in despatching emigrants to the West Indies. 24 February 1853.

I have, &c.
(signed). *Newcastle*.

Enclosure in No. 7.

EXTRACT of a Report from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners to *H. Merivale*, Esq., dated 24 February 1853. Encl. in No. 7.

"WE beg to enclose copies of two letters respecting emigration from China to British Guiana and Trinidad, which we have received from Mr. White, the agent for conducting that emigration. No. 3, 26 Dec. No. 4, 26 Dec.

"2. It appears from these letters, that, on Mr. White's arrival at Amoy, he found 10 ships waiting for emigrants, six for Cuba, three for Australia, and one for Demerara; and he found, as might perhaps have been expected, that those emigrations, being carried on upon bounty, were conducted simply as commercial operations, with many irregularities and abuses. Mr. White, however, had no official connexion with any but the West India emigration; and it will be observed, that even in regard to these colonies, he had not, up to the date of his letters now transmitted, received the instructions which contained his appointment. They were, as we have before now mentioned, detained after his departure for the consideration of the Foreign Office. He was, however, known by those concerned in the West India emigration to be acting with the sanction of Government, and was allowed, therefore, to exercise a certain influence on that part of the emigration. He gives the following analysis of the emigration to the West Indies:—

BRITISH GUIANA.

NAME OF SHIP.	Date of Sailing.	Number Embarked.
	1852:	
Lord Elgin - - -	23 July - -	155
Glentanner - - -	1 September -	305
Samuel Boddington - -	23 November -	308 Men, 22 Boys.
	TRINIDAD.	
Australia - - - -	17 December -	450
Clarendon - - -	Ready to sail -	—

Of these ships, the two first had sailed, before Mr. White's arrival, from Amoy.

"3. The 'Samuel Boddington' sailed from the same port in which the rival emigrations to South America, Cuba, and Australia had introduced great irregularity; and this was rendered more mischievous by the circumstance that one of the agents for the Cuban contract was also employed by those concerned in the West Indian emigration. The captain of the 'Samuel Boddington' complains that in consequence he was not fairly treated, inferior emigrants having been supplied, and a large number having escaped when on the point of being shipped; Mr. White considers these complaints to have been exaggerated; but we think that copies of Mr. White's letter (No. 4), and of the letters from Captain Hurst and Messrs. Tait enclosed in it, should be forwarded by the next post (March 2) to the Governor

BRITISH GUIANA.

of British Guiana. We do not forward copies of the instructions, invoices, and clearing certificate referred to by Mr. White, as we do not apprehend that they will be of any use in the colony; the certificate is signed only by the agents of the shipowner. A copy of Mr. White's letter should also, we think, be forwarded to Trinidad, on account of the information it gives as to the ship "Australia" bound for that colony. That ship was, under Mr. White's advice, sent to Namoa, where he states her to have obtained an excellent set of emigrants. The Duke of Newcastle will remember that a large number of boys were said to have been sent from this port against the wishes of their parents. We do not doubt that this was a mistake; but we have requested Mr. White to furnish us with an explanation on the subject.

"4. Mr. White was of opinion that the space of 15 feet per adult, required by us in our contract with Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co. respecting Trinidad emigration, and allowed in this ship, is more than is necessary. The Duke of Newcastle may remember that we have since reduced the space to that required for coolies from Calcutta (12 feet); but we should point out that the colony of Trinidad will not be called on to pay more than the bounty of 100 dollars per adult proclaimed by the authorities of British Guiana, and payable on emigrants arriving in that colony.

"5. The 'Clarendon' was filling at Whampoa, Mr. White having (judiciously as it appears to us) persuaded those concerned in the West Indian emigration to withdraw their ships from Amoy.

"6. The 'Lucknow,' a ship employed by a firm of British Guiana to bring out Chinese emigrants, had not appeared at Amoy, and it was feared she had met with some accident.

"7. Mr. White appears to have decided that it will be best to make Hong Kong the port of emigration to the West Indies. This has the obvious advantage of placing his operations effectually under British supervision, of disjoining them from the Spanish and other less regularly conducted emigrations, and of avoiding all appearance of interfering with a foreign power. Whether he will obtain emigrants at Hong Kong may be doubtful; but under the circumstances he appears to us to judge very rightly in trying the experiment."

Sub-Enclosure 1, to Enclosure in No. 7.

(No. 3.)

Sir, Hong Kong, 26 December 1852.

I AM prevented from acknowledging the receipt of any communication by this mail, as all the letters to my address have been inadvertently sent up to Amoy, and cannot come to hand before the departure of the mail for England on the 28th. His Excellency the Governor has, however, been kind enough to allow me to peruse the papers and despatches with which he has been furnished in reference to my appointment. As soon as I receive the "specific instructions" referred to in the fourth paragraph of my instructions, they shall have my most careful attention.

2. I had the honour of addressing you last on the 15th October. Since then I have been engaged in collecting information as to the actual state of affairs at the different places from which emigration was likely to be established (so as to decide definitively upon my future arrangements), and have endeavoured, by way of suggestion, advice, or remonstrance, to put the bounty emigration to British Guiana and Trinidad on as favourable a footing as circumstances would permit.

3. The "Samuel Boddington," for Demerara, left Amoy on the 24th November with 308 men and 44 boys. The "Australia," for Trinidad, left Namoa on the 17th instant with 450 men. I have addressed you separately (No. 4) with reference to these two vessels. The "Clarendon," for Trinidad, will leave from Whampoa in the course of a few days, probably before the 31st, and I leave this for Canton to-morrow, in order to see the emigrants and vessel before they leave. The "Lucknow" had not reached Amoy on the 20th instant, and as she was then 70 days out from Hong Kong, it is to be feared that she must have met with some fatal disaster. The emigration to British Guiana and Trinidad stands thus at present:—

British Guiana.—Lord Elgin	sailed 23 July		155
„ Glentanner	„ 1 September		305
„ Samuel Boddington	„ 23 November		308 men.
and 44 boys			22
			790
Trinidad.—Australia	sailed 17 December		450
" Clarendon	ready to sail		—

4. The

4. The whole question of emigration is at present on an unsatisfactory footing, and unless regulated, and judiciously and carefully conducted, will lead to unpleasant consequences, injurious, if not destructive of its ultimate success. The sudden demand for labour, created by the Cuban and Peruvian contracts, and the competing emigration to Australia and the British West Indies, with the fact that the parties now engaged view the question of emigration simply as a commercial operation, to be carried on at the lowest cost, with little reference to other considerations, will at once account for many of the irregularities and abuses that have occurred, and for the feeling that now prevails to a certain extent adverse to emigration.

5. Immediately after my arrival at Hong Kong, I went to Canton in order to see Messrs. Turner & Co., and on my return I proceeded to Amoy where I remained until the 9th of November. I found 10 vessels in the river, waiting for emigrants, and others daily expected. Of those 10 vessels, six were for Cuba, three for Australia, and one for Demerara, viz.:—

For Cuba.	For Australia.	For Demerara.
Blenheim.	Royal Saxon.	Boddington.
Inchinnan.	Spartan.	
Columbus.	Eleanor Lancaster.	
Lady Amherst.		
Julian d'Unzueta.		
San Andres.		

The "Sir Thomas Gresham," (afterwards chartered for Cuba) arrived during my stay there, and the "Australia" the day after I left. I found everything in an unsatisfactory position. The rivalry of the parties engaged in emigration, and the eagerness to obtain emigrants, in order to prevent the vessels from coming under demurrage, had given rise, and a sanction, to irregularities and abuses which ought not to have been permitted, and could not have existed under a moderate and regulated emigration.

6. Of the three houses engaged, Messrs. Tait & Co., and Syme, Mure & Co. had the working out of the Spanish contracts, under Messrs Wardrobe and Ferrand (Spanish agents) for one contract, and Mr. De Castro (Spanish Agent) for another contract; and Mr. Robert Jackson had two out of the three Australian vessels. Messrs. Tait & Co. were also engaged to procure emigrants for British Guiana and Trinidad, thus combining a double agency, on the one side, on behalf of British Guiana and Trinidad, and on the other, on behalf of Cuba. This double agency appeared to me exceedingly objectionable; but as Messrs. Tait & Co. were acting for Turner & Co., the agents of Hyde Hodge & Co., I could not interfere with pending arrangements.

7. The above and other reasons led me to conclude, that under existing circumstances, Amoy was not the port best adapted to test the question of a successful emigration to the British West Indies. During my say at Amoy I had received favourable accounts from Namoa, confirming the opinion I had formed regarding it, on my last visit to China. The "Sir Thomas Gresham" having arrived, I made a conditional arrangement with the consignees, that if I found matters favourable at Namoa, I would charter the vessel at 10 *l.* for Demerara; but finding upon my return to Hong Kong that no instructions had come out to me by the last mail, I was obliged to relinquish this project. On my way down from Amoy I spent a day at Namoa, and found everything exceedingly favourable; the people strong and healthy, and willing to emigrate, and the Chinese authorities anxious to encourage it. Immediately on my return, I put myself in communication with Turner & Co. on the subject, and it was arranged by Tait & Co. that the "Australia," which had arrived at Amoy on the 10th, should take emigrants from Namoa. I was anxious that the "Clarendon" (arrived on the first of December) should also go up to Namoa; but being ill-adapted for beating up the coast against the north-east monsoon (she was 65 days from Singapore), and as Messrs. Turner had been making arrangements to obtain emigrants from the neighbourhood of Whampoa, it was decided not to lose time by sending her to Namoa, but to ship emigrants from Whampoa.

8. You will perceive that this scattered emigration, partly at Amoy, partly at Namoa, and partly at Whampoa, renders it impossible to establish any well-regulated system. I had at one time some thought of establishing my head-quarters at Cumsingmoon, or rather at Macao, from which Cumsingmoon is not far off; but I found Cumsingmoon monopolised by parties engaged in obtaining coolies for Peru (of whom Senor Savella is the principal contractor) and Macao by Senor Jorgé, who is engaged on account of Cuba; and I have therefore decided to remain at Hong Kong, and set on foot an emigration from this port.

BRITISH GUIANA.

9. I shall address you separately with reference to some serious disturbances that have taken place at Amoy, connected with emigration, or rather with the manner in which it has been carried on from that port; but I will state now as briefly as possible the reasons which have influenced me, under present circumstances, in fixing upon Hong Kong in preference to any other place hitherto considered as better adapted for emigration purposes.

1st. At Amoy there still prevails a strong feeling of irritation among the respectable part of the population, in consequence of the recent disturbances, and of the abuses practised by the Chinese crimps; and this irritation might lead to collision.

2d. At Namoa and Cumsingmoon, and such other outlying stations, there is an absolute want of supervision, consequently, great facility for the perpetration of abuses. Besides which the great opium houses are decidedly averse to it, and will throw difficulties in the way, as (from the recent occurrences of Amoy) they consider it would tend to endanger their property, frequently of very large amount, by drawing to these stations, along with the respectable and *bonâ fide* emigrants, thieves and vagabonds and persons of dangerous character.

3d. Whampoa is too near to Canton; and should any disturbance take place there in connexion with emigration, it might re-act upon Canton, and involve the national relations by endangering life and property. Macao possesses no peculiar advantages, and the moderate supply of labour that can be obtained there is already forestalled by the parties connected by the Cuban emigration.

4th. In all these places emigration to the British West Indies will have to compete with other emigrations, particularly Cuba and Peru; and any prominent advantages held out to the emigrants for the British West Indies will be immediately laid hold of and held out to the emigrants for Cuba and Peru; so that they would be induced to embark for those places under promises not likely ever to be realised.

5th. If the emigration be conducted from Hong Kong, it may be placed under the strictest possible supervision, and every guarantee afforded to the emigrant, that the terms held out as inducements to him to emigrate will be fairly carried out in the colony to which he is about to transfer his labour. Its establishment from this port will also prevent all question of a breach of international law on the part of England towards China, by the carrying on emigration on Chinese territory in violation of the Chinese laws, by an agent sanctioned and appointed by the English government. The emigration agent will be placed under the immediate supervision of government, and his accounts accurately tested; and the port itself, as the great rendezvous of shipping, offers facilities for procuring vessels that do not exist at any other port or place in China.

6th. Considering the mutinies and disasters which have occurred within the last two years on board of Chinese emigrant vessels, and the recent disturbances at Amoy, I believe that public opinion in England will be better satisfied to learn, that the emigration to the British West Indies is being conducted openly and fairly, and under every possible guarantee for the safety of the emigrants, from a British port, than if it were established at any outport away from the public supervision and control. Nor is it necessary that the emigration should be actually restricted to Hong Kong; but the head-quarters of the agent being established there, arrangements may be made by him to obtain emigrants from other places, should circumstances render it advisable to do so, and these he may superintend and control by occasional visits.

10. I have not yet made any arrangements for emigration from here, as I have been anxious to weigh the matter well before coming to a decision. I have consulted several of the official authorities and the residents; some are in favour of it; others, who are against it, state that there is a prejudice among respectable Chinese against Hong Kong, and that good labourers will not come here. I attach no great weight to these objections. My object is to put emigration on a footing such as has never yet been attempted from China; and I believe that good labourers will come, if respectable Chinese agents are employed, provided that they are treated on their arrival with consideration and kindness, and are assured of being taken on board of good English ships, provided with every comfort.

11. I went up to Amoy on the 19th inst. to be present at the investigation into the causes of the recent disturbances there, and returned on the 20th. I go up to Canton and Whampoa to-morrow, in order to see the "Clarendon" before she leaves. On my return I shall make arrangements to procure emigrants for the two vessels which you expect to arrive here between the 15th January and 15th February. I propose to send one if not two interpreters by each vessel, and to place every 50 emigrants under a headman, who will be responsible for their conduct. I believe some organisation of this kind to be necessary, and that it will prevent the occurrence of those mutinies and disasters at sea which have so often of late cast a painful stigma upon Chinese emigration.

I have, &c.

S. Walcott, Esq., Secretary
Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners.

(signed) *James T. White.*

BRITISH GUIANA.

Sub-Enclosure 2, to Enclosure in No. 7.

(No. 4.)

Sir, Hong Kong, 26 Dec. 1852.

Under cover are four papers connected with the "Samuel Boddington."

1. Letter of instructions to the captain.
2. Invoice of clothing.
3. Invoice of stores put on board.
4. Clearing certificate.

And the same papers with reference to the "Australia"; all furnished at my request by Messrs. Tait & Co. at Amoy, who are acting for Messrs. Turner & Co. in Canton, the agents of Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co.

I have not the slightest reason to doubt that all supplies stated in the invoices have been put on board, and all that I examined were of excellent quality; you will observe that the cost of provisioning each emigrant per "Samuel Boddington" for the voyage would amount to - - - - - - - - - - - - $11. 02.

And of the clothing - - - - - - - - 2. 12.

(Estimating the number of emigrants at 330.)

And that the cost per "Australia" would be - - - - - $19. 70.

And clothing - - - - - - - - - 4. 40.

(Estimating the number of emigrants at 450.)

And this supposes all the provisions, &c. &c. laid in, to be consumed on the voyage.

Beef and pork should be sent here, when vessels are chartered in England for the emigration service. These articles are generally expensive, and the supply is very irregular and uncertain.

In addition to the above papers, I request your attention to the letter of Captain Hurst, in command of the "Samuel Boddington," having reference to the condition of the emigrants placed on board of the vessel by Messrs. Tait & Co. on the same subject.

Although Captain Hurst's statements are exaggerated, I have good reason to believe that many of the emigrants were neither agricultural labourers nor in sound health. I was not at Amoy when the "Boddington" left; but I obtained this information on my recent visit there, from parties perfectly disinterested, and in no way connected with emigration.

On my first visit to Amoy, between the 20th October and 9th November, I had occasion to address both Messrs. Tait & Co., and Captain Hurst in reference to the quality of the emigrants, and to the number of boys who were intended to be reckoned as adults. Subsequently to my leaving Amoy the people intended for the "Boddington" thought proper to run away (at least the greater part did so), without, so far as I am aware, any reason for their doing so beyond caprice, and an unwillingness at the last moment to leave their country.

Many of these came back to Tait & Co., and others engaged themselves to other parties; but from the number of vessels in the river waiting for emigrants there was great difficulty in procuring the requisite complement for the "Boddington." She was under demurrage; and my information goes to this point, that persons were passed as emigrants who, under other circumstances, would have been rejected.

It appears to me desirable that the Governor of British Guiana should be furnished with information in regard to the emigrants per "Boddington," in order that if the authorities think proper to do so, the proper steps may be taken to protect the public interest.

The people per "Australia" are a very fine set, the best who have yet emigrated. The "Australia" is admirably adapted for emigration service. Her great height between decks gives abundant ventilation; and although she was limited by the first instructions of Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co. to carry emigrants on the allowance of 15 superficial feet per man, she might safely and comfortably have taken 80 to 100 more emigrants, giving to all the full allowance of 12 superficial feet.

My information regarding the "Boddington" was obtained on my second visit to Amoy, between the 12th and 20th instant.

I enclose a few lines for Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co., with copies of the letters from Captain Hurst and Messrs. Tait & Co., which please forward, provided you approve of what I have done; the letter is open for your perusal.

I have, &c.

S. Walcott, Esq., Secretary (signed) *James T. White.*
Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners.

I have partly engaged the services of a respectable interpreter to go by the first vessel to Demerara.

BRITISH GUIANA.

EXTRACT.

Barque "Samuel Boddington,"
Amoy, 24 Nov. 1852.

Dear Sir,

IT is painful to state this ship is still lying here with 157 very indifferent coolies and 56 fine healthy boys on board, and the demurrage daily going on. There has been six ships despatched since I have been lying in this port; on Saturday the 21st November, the "Lady Amherst" and "Royal Saxon" completed their numbers. Messrs. Tait & Co. must hold most strange instructions from Turner & Co. in Canton, or else Tait & Co. don't do justice by them, all I can say is, had Turner & Co. empowered me to get the coolies, I would have sailed a month since, with a full and complete number, according to the Act of Parliament. I am sorry to say there appears at present no prospect whatever in getting away. On the 18th they got one, next day not any. I am at a loss to understand the connexion between Tait & Co. and the people connected with the Havanna business. Syme Mure have now on hand 400; they have just completed the "Lady Amherst"; the coolies must be misled in some way or they never would prefer going to a slave country to going to a good English free settlement. * * * * * * *

I must inform you that Messrs. Tait & Co. are determined to ship small boys under 14 years of age and call them adults. * * * * * * * * * I must say that, from all I can learn, they wish to get us away with anything, but you may rely, and inform our friends in Demerara, that it is my determination to have a good cargo of field labourers before I sail or move from this; nothing goes on flourishing here, but that cursed Havanna business, where half of them will be sold for slaves. It is high time the British Government interfere with it. I must also inform you that this ship was by right in turn before the "Blenheim," but the "Blenheim" was chartered to go to the Havanna; so they thought proper to say the coolies collected was for the "Blenheim." My ship was chartered in Canton and came into port before the "Blenheim" was chartered, or even had half of her cargo delivered; you may, if you think proper, inform Messrs. Turner and and Co. how their friends act towards them here. I am quite tired of going to Messrs. Tait & Co. on Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co.'s business. * * * * * * I hope you will see to this. These Spanish agents collect any number of coolies at Messrs. Syme Mure. I should say Messrs. Tait & Co. must have a great deal to do with this 8,000 coolies for the Havanna. By this conveyance I shall write Messrs. Turner & Co., Canton. They are instructed to collect a cargo of coolies; we have on board the lame, blind, dumb, itch, pox, in fact disgusting to the eye. It would seem to me that anything will do for the British colony. I am happy to say that I have repeatedly made it my business to go on board the Havanna ships, and have examined the coolies to see the sorts of men sent, and can with safety say they all are superior to those we now have on board; nine-tenths of those that have been sent are emaciated and full of disease, in so much they never can be made useful field labourers. The boys will make the best labourers for our colonies; they are free from disease, generally well-limbed, and will soon become accustomed to our way, and won't wish to return to this wretched country again. Dr. Ely will most likely forward to you a correspondence, which will show to you their greatest possible wish is to send on board anything they may choose. I am sorry to trouble you with so long an account; but if Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co. have coolies sent from China they had better send up the dollars and a competent agent. If this ship had been for the Havanna she would have been halfway there now.

I am, &c.
(signed) *John W. Hurst.*

Mr. White.

My dear Sir,

HAVING duly considered all I have written to you, I do think Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co. should be made acquainted with what I have stated to you. I have no time to write them; you will much oblige me by writing those gentlemen. I trust I may be in London in May next, and will see those gentleman; you may please say I will call on them. My coolies look much better in their new clothes. Adieu.

I am, &c.
(signed) *J. W. H.*

Mr. Ely, the surgeon, and myself have examined the coolies on board the "Royal Saxon," and we find the very worst coolies on board that ship is better than our very best men.

I have just heard how this is; Captain Charles Worth pays eight dollars to procure his cargo, and I believe Tait & Co. only pays six; this accounts for the miserable, starved, diseased lot sent on board her. If you think fit you may send this letter to Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co. of London.

(signed) *J. W. H.*

Yesterday the coolies were examined and paid. We mustered 308 statute emigrants, and 46 boys under the age of 13 or 14, the ship measuring for 335 statute; therefore I am short n my proper number "three;" but Amoy is in such an unsettled state now that we do not see a prospect of getting another coolie if I waited. I sail this day for Demerara.

Yours, &c.
(signed) *J. W. Hurst*, Master,
Ship "Samuel Boddington."

BRITISH GUIANA.

Dear Sir, Amoy, 16 December 1852.

We have before us your letter of 14th instant, giving cover to a communication sent you by Captain Hurst of the "Samuel Boddington," complaining of the description of people sent on board his vessel as emigrants for Demarara.

The only one of the various statements put forth by him that we can admit to be correct is that referring to part of the people intended for his vessel deserted on their removal from our vessel to his. This was as much of a disappointment to us as it could possibly be to him; there was nothing in the shape of improper restraint used towards them.

The people put on board the "Boddington" were of a class in no way inferior to other emigrants leaving at that time and since; Captain Hurst's proposal regarding boys was that two under age should go as an adult; but such an arrangement should not be noted on his charter party, that document providing full freight for every emigrant landed. The "Blenheim," of which mention is made, was chartered before the "Boddington" reached this port, and her charter party executed, as can be shown you whenever you wish to see it; that Captain Hurst mention us in a very unbecoming manner, all through his letter is saying what must have been evident to you.

We deem it necessary to say to you, in justice to ourselves, that no attention was bestowed upon any other vessel loading emigrants during the period the "Boddington" was in course of loading. We enclose copy of the invoice of stores, with note of clothing for 308 adults and 44 youths, and copy of our letter of instructions handed the captain.

We are, &c.

J. F. White, Esq., Amoy. (signed) *Tait & Co.*

— No. 8. —

No. 8.
Duke of Newcastle to Governor Barkly.
24 March 1853.

(No. 27.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from His Grace the Duke of *Newcastle* to Governor *Barkly*.

Sir, Downing-street, 24 March 1853.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith for your information a copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, with copies of two further letters from Mr. White, reporting the progress he has made in the despatch of Chinese emigrants to the West Indies.

8 March 1853.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Newcastle.*

Enclosure in No. 8.

Encl. in No. 8.

Colonial Land and Emigration Office, 8 March 1853.

Sir,

1. We beg to enclose, for the information of the Duke of Newcastle, copies of two letters addressed to the Secretary of this Board by Mr. White, the Emigration Agent in China.

No. 6. 8 Jan. 1853.
No. 7. 11 Jan. 1853.

2. It will be observed that the full complement of 1,000 labourers required by Trinidad will probably be sent thither; that a large ship of 1,144 tons has been taken up for Demerara besides those already despatched; that there is some difficulty in procuring ships, but none in procuring people, and that the emigrants recently procured are promising and contented.

3. Mr. White's suggestion with regard to procuring females is one on which it is not necessary to pronounce at once, as the emigration season will be over long before any letter can reach China; and it would be very desirable to obtain a more precise explanation of the plan before doing so; of the importance of the object there is no doubt.

4. It appears from a private letter from Mr. White that he considered his understanding with the West India Committee to be, that he should go out to superintend only the commencement of the emigration, and accordingly that he is about to return to England at the expiration of the present season, *i. e.* after March. This being the case, we do not see that any decision can be taken now on his suggestion. Our present impression, however, is, that it would be desirable to aim at family rather than purely female emigration.

We have, &c.

Herman Merivale, Esq. &c. &c. &c. (signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.* *Frederic Rogers.*

Sub-Enclosure 1, to Enclosure in No. 8.

(No. 6.)

Sir, Canton, 8 January 1853.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 25th October 1852, with a copy of the charter party of the ship "Martin Luther." Copy of the memorandum of agreement between the Commissioners and Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co., in reference to the Trinidad emigration; and copy of the instructions to surgeons engaged in the African emigration.

BRITISH GUIANA.

. The first paragraph refers to "a letter of the 23d instant, which conveyed certain instructions that had been submitted and approved by the Secretary of State." This letter has not yet come to hand; but as his Excellency the Governor has been kind enough to furnish me with a copy of the "instructions" that were sent out to him, I am in possession of the information they convey.

I have made arrangements for embarking emigrants on board of the "Martin Luther" at Hong Kong, and the authorities will thus have an opportunity of inspecting the vessel, and of ascertaining in detail the system under which it is proposed to carry on emigration to the West Indies. There will be no difficulty or delay in procuring a full complement for the "Martin Luther."

The "Clarendon" left Whampoa on the 2d instant, with a full complement, 257 adults, fine effective people. The people were so eager to go by her, that they remained alongside the vessel in boats for three or four days, rather than stay on shore, and at last upwards of 40 were rejected, being above the number the vessel could legally carry. Every man received 10 dollars in money, and two suits of clothes. The people insisted upon having the vessel fitted up in the same manner as the vessels which had previously conveyed emigrants to California, and it seemed to give them perfect confidence when this was done to their satisfaction. I found them cheerful and apparently content with everything, and I explained to them, through an interpreter, the probable length of the voyage, the work they would be required to perform, the wages they would receive, and that they had full liberty to leave the vessel if they wished to do so. I also had a few notices to the same effect stuck up between decks, and a scale of the provisions they were entitled to receive as their daily allowance. I do not forward by this mail the papers connected with the "Clarendon," as I wish to show them to his Excellency Dr. Bowring, and to explain any point on which he may wish for information. There is a good surgeon on board, who was procured in Calcutta; the one who came out having been dismissed there for misconduct and intemperance.

Messrs. Turner & Co. are now in treaty for two vessels, one for Demerara, the other for Trinidad, and I give them every assistance for carrying out the arrangements made by the Commissioners with Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co. It is better to do so, than by unnecessary competition impede their operations. Before I close this, I hope to announce that one, if not both vessels, have been secured.

I find it impossible to obtain interpreters either at Amoy or Namoa for the emigrants who have embarked from there; I have therefore written to Penang to his Excellency the Acting Governor to request that he will be kind enough to give his assistance to procure four interpreters from there, two for Trinidad and two for Demerara. They can be sent on either by some vessel that touches there or by the steamers. There will be some expense attending this, but it cannot be obviated. A few interpreters may be obtained at Hong Kong for the emigrants who embark from the Canton districts.

A few women might have been procured to go by the "Clarendon," but the captain objected to take them, on the ground that they would give occasion to quarrels and disturbances on the voyage, and the matter therefore was not pressed upon him. If the colonies are desirous to obtain a proportion of women, I think it would be better to keep this female emigration separate and distinct from the male emigration, and to send some women by a separate vessel. I am led to believe that they may be obtained from this district and elsewhere by paying to them in advance one year's to one and a half year's wages; and from what I have seen of Chinese character, I have no doubt that this amount would gladly be refunded to the colony by such of the Chinese emigrants as had already obtained, by superior industry, a better position than their fellow emigrants; a few families might be obtained on these terms. But as the species of emigration is new, and would require tact and care in the management, it would be advisable not to attempt it with any vessel of larger tonnage than would accommodate from 120 to 150 persons; and the emigration should take place from Hong Kong, one-half the number might be landed in Demerara and the other half in Trinidad. Proportionate wages would have to be paid in advance for the children.

There is at present some difficulty in obtaining vessels for the emigration service; the captains, alarmed at the disasters which occurred some time ago, are unwilling to embark in it if any other engagement can be found. There is a considerable demand for vessels to California, and the parties connected with the Cuban and Peruvian emigration are disposed to take up any vessels that offer. This latter difficulty is not likely to last long, as from the reluctance of English captains to take over a limited number of emigrants, Spanish and Peruvian vessels are preferred, and in time this emigration will be carried on entirely by vessels sailing under these flags. The "Sophia," an American vessel, purchased by the Spanish Consul, Senor Jorgé, sailed recently from Macao with 250 to 260 emigrants; her tonnage is from 270 to 280, and her destination the Havanna. The rigid enforcement of the English Passengers' Act, if adopted and carried out by the authorities at Hong Kong, would completely prevent English vessels from this source of profit; and the effect of this would be greatly to add to the wretchedness of the emigration, by restricting it entirely to Spanish and Peruvian vessels, whose captains have little compunction in carrying as many people as can possibly be stowed.

Although the emigration to California was discontinued for a time, and some hundreds have returned from there, it is now being resumed: One vessel left Hong Kong recently with 240 passengers, and another with 150.

The rate of freight under present circumstances may be stated at 10*l.* to 12*l.* for every emigrant landed in the West Indies; it is not likely ever to exceed 12*l.* 10*s.*, and occasionally

sionally will be obtained below 10*l.* If the emigration agent were authorised to make a small advance on freight, say from 1*l.* to 2*l.* per man, on the number of emigrants the vessel could carry, it would facilitate the chartering of vessels, and probably enable him to procure them on somewhat lower terms. This amount is intended to cover the expense of the vessel for fitments, water casks, and disbursements while in harbour.

I am afraid it will be too late to do anything this season in regard to the Jamaica emigration without interfering with that to Demerara and Trinidad. The difficulty will be in regard to vessels, and not in regard to people, of whom, from the different points now open to emigration, any number may be obtained. Until this season I had no idea of the tenacity and force with which the monsoon blows from one quarter, and it will always be desirable when possible not to extend the departure of vessels beyond the end of March or middle of April. A voyage of 40 to 60 days between this and Singapore is an affair of common occurrence. If emigrants leave after the 31st March, it will be necessary to furnish them with warm clothing for use in the southern latitudes when rounding the Cape of Good Hope.

I have, &c.
(signed) *James T. White.*

S. Walcott, Esq.,
Secretary Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners.

Sub-Enclosure 2, to Enclosure in No. 8.

(No. 7.)

Sir, Hong Kong, 11 January 1853.

REFERRING to my previous letter of the 8th instant, No. 6, I have now to state for your information, that the "Lady Flora Hastings," 647 tons, has been chartered by Messrs. Turner, per account of Hyde, Hodge & Co., and that the arrangements for a charter of the "Lord Warriston," have been so far advanced that they will probably be completed in the course of to-day.

The emigrants per "Lady Flora Hastings" will complete the number required for Trinidad, and the "Lord Warriston" will be sent to Demerara. She is a fine vessel of 1,144 tons, upwards of eight feet between decks, and has been engaged in conveying emigrants on previous occasions, and is in every respect well adapted for the service.

"The Lady Flora" is chartered at 10*l.* 5*s.* for every adult landed in the West Indies. The "Warriston" will probably be closed for on the same terms. Both will get away before the 15th of next month.

I have, &c.
(signed) *James T. White.*

S. Walcott, Esq.,
Secretary Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners.

P. S.—The freight does not include provisions, but only water, fuel, and fittings. The provisions are laid in by Messrs. Turner & Co.

— No. 9. —

No. 9.
Duke of Newcastle to Governor Barkly.
20 April 1853.
7 April 1853.

(No. 35.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from His Grace the Duke of *Newcastle* to Governor *Barkly*.

Sir, Downing-street, 20 April 1853.

I TRANSMIT to you for your information a copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and emigration Commissioners, with a copy of a further report from Mr. White, on Chinese emigration to the West Indies.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Newcastle.*

Enclosure in No. 9.

Encl. in No. 9.

Colonial Land and Emigration Office,
7 April 1853.

Sir,

WE beg to forward, for the information of the Duke of Newcastle, a copy of a letter which we have received from the emigration agent in China with two of the enclosures, being a letter addressed by him to the officiating governor of the Straits Settlements, and a notice issued for the information of the Chinese.

No. 9.
27 January 1853.

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2. With the other enclosures, which contain merely lists of provisions and correspondence with reference to the quality of the emigrants sent off by the "Samuel Boddington," which must be judged of by the authorities in British Guiana, it seems unnecessary to trouble the Duke of Newcastle.

3. It will be observed, that Mr. White is endeavouring to procure interpreters, and expects that in time men will take their families with them.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure to Enclosure in No. 9.

(No. 9.)

Sir, Hong Kong, 27 January 1853.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt on the 16th instant of my "Instructions," which, bearing date the 22d October, ought apparently to have come to hand by the previous mail in December.

2. Under cover are several papers numbered from 1 to 10:—

No. 1 is a list and scale of the provisions and stores, &c., on board of the "Clarendon." I examined these, and found them all good, and they appear to me sufficient in quantity for the voyage.

No. 2 is a list of the clothing on board of the "Clarendon," for the use of the emigrants, 257 in number.

No. 3 is a certificate in reference to the "Clarendon." The casks which I examined were all in good order, and the quantity of water in the certificate stated to be on board I have every reason to believe to be perfectly correct.

Annexed.

No. 4 is copy of a letter addressed to Mr. Blundell, officiating Governor of the Straits Settlements, to ask his assistance in procuring interpreters. This was forwarded through his Excellency, Dr. Bowring.

No. 5. Copy of a letter to me from Messrs. Turner & Co.

No. 6. Copy of a letter to Turner & Co., from Tait & Co., Amoy. Both of these have reference to the "Samuel Boddington." I do not willingly trouble you with further correspondence on this subject, but I forward these at the request of Messrs. Turner & Co. They leave the matter as before. I believe Captain Hurst's statements to be greatly exaggerated, but that, nevertheless, many of the emigrants put on board were of an inferior description. The "Boddington" has been heard of from Angerhead; all well.

Annexed.

No. 7 is a notice which I have had circulated here and in the neighbourhood in reference to emigration. It appears to have had a very good effect, and the Chinese say that the terms and conditions are perfectly satisfactory. The inquiries have been numerous, and I have every reason to believe that there will be no difficulty in securing a moderate supply of useful labourers. Some of them state that they will take their families if the country be a good one, but that they must go there first to see it, and if they like it they will return for their families.

No. 8 is a notice to be posted up on board of ship, and at the emigration depôts, and embodies the rules and regulations to be observed on board.

No. 9 is the Chinese translation of No. 7.

No. 10 is the Chinese translation of No. 8.

I have also prepared instructions for the captains of vessels carrying emigrants, and a few short remarks for surgeons, which I will forward by next mail.

3. The "Lady Flora Hastings" is nearly ready, and will leave this in a day or two for Namoa. Arrangements had been made to procure people there, previous to my fixing upon Hong Kong, otherwise I would have had her placed here. I do not accompany her to Namoa, as the "Martin Luther" is daily expected, and I am anxious about the success of the first emigration from Hong Kong. She measures 674 tons, and will carry 320 emigrants, and will complete the number required for Trinidad.

Australia - - - - - - -	445
Clarendon - - - - - - -	257
Lady Flora Hastings - - - -	320
	1,022

4. I regret to say that the charter of the "Lord Warriston" was broken off at the last moment, although the papers had been prepared, and only waited signature. She goes to California, and takes 450 Chinese. Since then the agents of Messrs. Hyde have been in treaty for the "Bangalore;" but this also has failed, the captain preferring a charter to Australia.

5. So many disasters and misfortunes have occurred lately on board of the vessels bound to Cuba and Peru, that captains have become alarmed, and are very unwilling to engage in the

the emigration service, if anything else can be obtained. In time, I trust, that this feeling will wear off (and the establishment of emigration from Hong Kong will contribute to this end), but in the meanwhile it impedes emigration, and will probably prevent the number intended for Demerara being shipped before the commencement of the south-west monsoon.

As far as I am aware nothing untoward has happened to any of the vessels bound to British Guiana or Trinidad. The "Lord Elgin" was obliged to put into Singapore, having been two months in beating down there against the south-west monsoon, and the captain thought it advisable to lay in more provisions. During my hurried visit to Singapore I heard nothing unfavourable in reference to the "Lord Elgin."

6. If an emigration agent be continued in China, I think it would be safer, and perhaps also more economical, to authorise his purchasing and procuring the necessary provisions and supplies for the voyage. From what I have seen in reference to Cuban and other emigration, I am inclined to think that there will always be a tendency with consignees to "do the thing" at the cheapest possible rate, without reference to other considerations, and that they will rather incur an uncertain amount of risk than a certain outlay. All necessary supplies may be obtained here at very moderate prices, except beef and pork; and even these might be obtained at a moderate price by making early and judicious arrangements.

This system would remove the motive that influences many captains of vessels, in limiting the daily supplies to which the emigrants are entitled, with the view of economising their cost during the voyage.

It would not be necessary or, perhaps, desirable to continue this for any length of time, but only until experience had shown what quantity, quality, and description of stores and necessaries were best suited to the voyage and to the habits and requirements of the Chinese at sea.

7. At Amoy everything is perfectly quiet, and trade in its usual course. I believe that Mr. Syme, of Syme, Muir & Co., has thrown up all connexion with emigration. There is a large vessel there, the "Medway," taking emigrants for Sydney or Port Philip.

Whatever arrangements may be made here, no emigration will be on a perfectly satisfactory footing until some return emigrants come from the West Indies to give their own account of the country. Then only can it be expected that the Chinese should have sufficient confidence to come forward eagerly as emigrants, and many would probably be willing to come under engagement to repay a portion of the cost of their introduction out of their earnings in the colony.

I have, &c.
(signed) *James T. White.*

P.S.—28th. The "Lady Flora Hastings" takes an English surgeon, who has been engaged for the voyage to the West Indies for 200 *l.* sterling.

I will send, also, an interpreter, now conditionally engaged, under contract for two or three years.

I have just seen a Manilla Price Current of the 13th instant, which states that the "Martin Luther" had sailed for Sydney on the 8th of January, with a cargo of sugar, &c., &c. There is not, therefore, the slightest chance of her being here; and it rests with the Commissioners to enforce the penalty or not, as they deem it most advisable under the circumstances.

S. Walcott, Esq.,
Secretary to Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners.

(signed) *J. T. W.*

(No. 4.)

My dear Sir, Hong Kong, 19 January 1853.

When I had the pleasure of seeing you in Penang, at the latter end of 1851, and also for a few minutes last September, you expressed some interest in the success of emigration from China to the British West Indies, and kindly promised to render any assistance that would conduce to put the emigration on a sound and healthy basis, and I now take the liberty of addressing you on the subject.

About 800 emigrants have been sent to Demerara and 700 to Trinidad (all these are from the Fokien province, with the exception of about 250 from Whampoa), and it is probable that a 1,000 or 1,500 more will be sent before the close of the season.

I am anxious to get interpreters for these people, as I find it difficult, if not impossible to get any here. I have no doubt some of the lads at the school, which you were kind enough to take me to visit, would answer very well, if they were disposed to go. I wrote to Mr. Forbes Brown by the last mail, and am prepared to sanction any arrangement he may enter into to procure their service.

The Chinese emigration is entirely a Government measure; that is, it is paid for out of colonial funds, and is sanctioned by the Home Government, and is in fact on the same footing as the emigration from Calcutta to the Mauritius.

You will probably have seen in the papers an account of some disturbances at Amoy connected with emigration from that port. These were occasioned by the want of system, which admitted therefore of the perpetration of abuses by the crimps, and by excessive competition among the merchants engaged in procuring emigrants. Now everything is quiet,

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and I believe likely to continue so, but for the present, emigration has been almost entirely suspended, and has been transferred to Namoa.

One vessel has been sent from Whampoa with a set of fine and effective people, and I intend to try one from Hong Kong.

The vessels with emigrants for Cuba have been unfortunate, and disasters of various kinds have occurred among them; but as yet nothing has occurred to any of the vessels for Demerara and Trinidad of which I am aware, except in the case of "Lord Elgin," and that appears to have been a matter of no consequence.

I forward this through his Excellency Dr. Bowring, who has kindly promised to address you.

Believe me, &c.,

His Excellency, E. A. Blundell,
Offig. Governor of the Straits Settlements.

(signed) *J T. White.*

(No. 7.)

NOTICE.

THE English settlements in the West Indies are in want of labour for the cultivation of sugar, cotton, coffee, and other tropical productions, and for this reason are anxious to have the services of healthy able-bodied Chinese coolies, accustomed to field labour.

The climate of these countries is the same as at Singapore, and there is no cold weather as in China. The work the coolies will have to do is the same as the work required for growing sugar and rice in China, and with the same implements they have been used to.

The voyage is a long one, but everything will be done for their comfort and amusement. On arrival at the English settlements their health and comfort will be cared for, even more so than if they were living in their own country, and their national habits and customs will not be interfered with.

They will be able to send letters twice every month to their friends in China, and if they have any money to send it will be forwarded for them (Government will enable them to do so) two or three times during the year.

They will require to enter into contract here to serve in those settlements for the term of five years; but they will be at liberty to terminate the contract at the end of the first year after their arrival, or at any subsequent time. They will then be entirely their own masters, on payment, to the magistrate of the district where they choose to reside, of a small monthly tax. Or they may terminate the contract as soon as, and whenever they please, on payment of a sum proportionate to the cost of their passage, and the period of time they have served. Thus, if one half of the five years for which they had contracted have elapsed, they will have to pay only one half of the cost of their introduction, and so on in proportion.

They will receive here, on signing the contract, two months' wages in advance (paid in dollars) and two suits of cotton clothes (one of them wadded), two pair of stockings, two pair of shoes, one bamboo hat, one felt cap, and one bed cover. The clothing is given to them, but they will have to pay back the two months' wages advanced to them, at the rate of one dollar a month deducted from their wages, in the new country.

Every coolie will receive in the English West Indies monthly wages of dollars a month and two suits of clothes during the year, and if he is sick medicines from the doctor, and he will receive the following allowances of food every week:

10½ lbs. of rice or flour.
3½ lbs. of beef, pork, or salt fish.
1 lb. of sugar.
3½ oz. of tea.

If any coolie, after being in the country for some time, finds that he can live better on two dollars a month, that sum will be given to him in place of the above allowances.

No coolie will be required to work on the Sunday, except in case of necessity, and then he will be paid extra. If he takes two dollars a month to find his own food and clothes, a piece of ground will be given to him to grow vegetables.

Every coolie who chooses to do so may take his wife and children with him, without having to pay anything for their passage. A little money will be advanced to them here, and they will be paid for any work they can do in the fields.

The governors of the English settlements secure the performance of all that has been promised.

An interpreter has been engaged to remain in the country for three years, for the purpose of enabling the coolies to explain their wants and wishes, and these will always be complied with by the authorities, to the full extent of this engagement. The interpreters will accompany the coolies in the first vessel.

Any further information, and copies of this notice, may be obtained on application at the office of William Scott, Queen's-road, Hong Kong.

(signed) *James T. White.*

Hong Kong, 18 January 1853.

— No. 10 —

(No. 48.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from His Grace the Duke of *Newcastle* to Governor *Barkly*.

No. 10.
Duke of Newcastle to Governor Barkly.
14 May 1853.
* Page 25.

Sir, Downing-street, 14 May 1853.

1. I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 11th February last, No. 21,* transmitting two ordinances passed by yourself and the Court of Policy, entitled respectively:—

"An ordinance for regulating the rights, duties, and relations of employers and servants in the colony of British Guiana." No. 2 of 1853. *See* App. p. 171.

"An ordinance to repeal certain ordinances now in force for the regulation and encouragement of immigration into this colony, and to make other provisions in lieu thereof." No. 3 of 1853. *See* App. p. 174.

2. The ordinance No. 2, of 1853, appears to me to effect some material improvements in the state of the law between masters and servants, as enacted by No. 2, of 1848, especially in that part of it which regulates the liquidation of rent by labour. The practice of confounding rent with wages cannot but be injurious, under any regulations which can be devised; but the provisions of the present law are just, and I trust that they may mitigate the evils of the system.

3. I have, therefore, to convey to you Her Majesty's gracious confirmation and allowance of this Ordinance, which you will cause to be notified in the usual manner.

4. I wish that it were possible for me to regard with equal satisfaction the provisions of Ordinance No. 3. This is an ordinance of great importance, not enacted in concert with Her Majesty's Government, and containing provisions for which Her Majesty's Government were wholly unprepared by any previous communication.

5. The ordinance no doubt comprises many provisions of detail which are unobjectionable, and which did not require any previous authorization by the Secretary of State or the Board of Control; but it is altogether otherwise with those which make highly important changes with regard to the nature of contracts with immigrants and the terms on which return passages are to be given to coolies: and the course of the previous proceedings on these subjects renders it matter of more surprise that enactments inconsistent with the views heretofore entertained by Her Majesty's Government should have been adopted in a manner so much at variance with the course of repeated reference and ample discussion hitherto pursued.

6. On reverting to the previous correspondence, I find that my predecessor, Lord Grey, considered contracts for more than one year as likely to create discontent and remove the legitimate motive to industry among the labourers, and thus to injure the employers themselves. His Lordship, however, did not consider himself bound to press this objection in the case of immigrants introduced (like coolies and Portuguese) at the expense of the colony, and in these cases he allowed the legalization of contracts for three years, refusing, however, to allow liberated Africans imported at the expense of the British Government to be indentured on their arrival for more than one year.

7. Sir John Pakington was urged to extend the relaxation to liberated Africans, on the ground of testimony adduced to show that the long contracts had not worked ill; this concession was made.

8. But to no class of immigrants, under whatever circumstances introduced, could any legal compulsion be used to make them enter into contracts for more than one year.

9. In the case of the Chinese, Lord Grey further sanctioned the making, in China, of contracts for five years, but with the provision that the immigrants should be at liberty to cancel the contract at the end of each year. In truth, therefore, the contract was to be for five years as against the master, but for only one year as against the Chinese.

10. The Chinese now in course of introduction in the ships of Mr. Booker and of Messrs. Hyde & Co., are I find introduced under five years' contracts, which though

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though legally, of course subject to the powers of determination by the immigrants contain no reference to that power in the body of the agreement. But you have reported that these contracts will be terminated in a few months, by mutual consent, "as the Chinese are not likely to rest satisfied with earning six dollars" under their contracts, "when by steady industry they can make twice as much; and the planters will be too happy to let them work on their own account for whatever they can realise."

11. Such having been until now the state of the law and the views and proceedings of Her Majesty's Government as to the duration and nature of contracts, I have now to consider the changes made in this respect by the present ordinance.

12. It legalises absolutely contracts for five years made with certain formalities in China with Chinese emigrants, and it provides that coolie (sect. 31) and Chinese (sect. 35) emigrants introduced on bounty, and also that all coolies who have commuted or may commute their right to a return passage (sect. 33), shall be indentured for five years; that liberated Africans above 15 years of age (sect. 40), shall be indentured for three years, and that no bounty shall be paid on Portuguese immigrants arriving after the 1st May (sect. 37), unless they also indenture themselves for the same period.

Moreover it is provided (sect. 31) that if Her Majesty's Government should consent that the time of the coolies' residence be extended to 8 or 10 years, the indenture shall be extended to such further term as Her Majesty's Government may authorise. But finally it is enacted by the 46th section, that any indentured immigrant may determine his contract at the expiration of any year, after due notice, and on repaying to the colony the amount of bounty paid on his introduction (amounting however in the case of Chinese to 100 dollars, in that of coolies, to 10*l.* or 11*l.*), and to his employer all reasonable cost incurred on his behalf. The rate of wages provided by the indenture is that paid on the same estate to unindentured labourers, deducting nine dollars for medical attendance and lodging.

13. The conditions of the 46th section are so onerous and at the same time so vague, that the power of determining the contract, subject to these conditions, can hardly be regarded as practically available.

14. Now looking to the effect of these changes on different classes of immigrants, I cannot but consider that in the case of the Chinese, if your own reports are founded on just views, and if any credit is to be given to other testimony, the enactment of compulsory contracts for five years, would be either mischievous or nugatory. Those who have written on the character of these immigrants have represented them as ready to work hard if allowed the prospect of indefinitely advancing themselves by their industry, but also as not easily induced to exert themselves without that stimulus, jealous of anything which restricts their power of acquisition, and if dissatisfied, formidably skilful in combining among themselves. It is not easy to conceive a class of people with whom it would be less desirable to substitute a stringent and definite engagement during a long period, for those more indefinite hopes which are a legitimate stimulus to the industry of an intelligent person. Your own observations seem to have led you to think that contracts with the Chinese immigrants, made under the previous law, will be dissolved by mutual consent in a few months, and this may be the probable fate of contracts under such an ordinance as this, which would render it merely useless; but it is possible that cases might occur of injudicious and intemperate attempts on the part of particular planters to avail themselves of the law, and in that case results might take place which would injure not only those individuals, but the employers of labour throughout the colony.

15. If these objections apply to engagements formed under the sanction of the local Government, and on terms prescribed by that Government, they apply with still greater force to engagements made in China, while the emigrant is ignorant of the wages obtainable in British Guiana. And I would further observe, that the 5th section, which promises repayment of half the cost of importation to persons importing immigrants under contract to themselves, from ports in respect of which no bounty is payable, is calculated to stimulate an importation of Chinese indentured for long periods, on terms for the fairness of which no security is taken, and which, therefore, may issue in discontent and disputes.

16. I regret, therefore, that the arrangements deliberately made and sanctioned by Lord Grey for the regulation of contracts with Chinese immigrants should have been thus hastily subverted.

17. The effect of the ordinance on the coolies involves considerations of a still more serious nature than to those which I have adverted in regard to the Chinese. A compulsory contract of five years' duration with one master, if it could be enforced, would imply a state of things hardly compatible with personal freedom, and even a voluntary contract for the same term should not be attempted until a further experience of the three years' system should have led the way to it, but the enforcement of such a provision without any warning on coolies who have commuted their right to a return passage for the bounty of 50 dollars, is wholly inconsistent with good faith. The terms of commutation might, perhaps, be reasonably construed as placing the persons accepting them under the rules understood to be applicable to the immigrants in course of introduction at the time. But an enactment which on the pretext of such a commutation invests the Governor with the power of summarily assigning a number of Her Majesty's subjects for a period of five years, to masters towards whom they may feel the strongest aversion, is one to which it is impossible that Her Majesty's Government should be advised to give an assent. Nor has it been the purpose of the Legislature that the measure should stop here, for it appears from section 31, that it is intended to pave the way for a still larger extension of the contract to "such further term as Her Majesty may think fit to authorise but not exceeding 10 years in the whole."

18. I have now to advert to the changes effected by the ordinance, under the second of the two heads into which I have divided them, viz.: the terms on which return passages are to be given to coolies. The provisions of the law hitherto in force, which were founded on suggestions made by Her Majesty's Government, and assented to after much negotiation by the Court of Directors, were these: for five years after their arrival in the colony, adult coolies (omitting for the sake of brevity the case of children) were bound either to work under a written contract, with some planter (from whom a duty of 2 or 4 dollars a year was levied by Government) or to pay a monthly tax of 1 dollar 50 cents a month. On the completion of these conditions, which were described as industrial residence, they were entitled to free return passages. If they returned before that period they were bound not only to pay for their own passages, but to pay up the monthly tax for the time wanting to complete their residence. Under the former law and under the 31st section of the present ordinance, indentured coolies receive the same wages as other labourers, subject, however, to a deduction of nine dollars a year for lodging and medical attendance, which were not supplied to unindentured labourers.

19. As the present ordinance provides that coolies shall be under indenture during the whole period for which they engage to remain in the colony, the monthly tax becomes inapplicable, and is omitted. By sect. 30 (which in order to give time for consideration in this country, is not to take effect till the 30th June), the deduction from wages in favour of the employer is also abolished. But it is provided that no coolie shall be entitled to a return passage without paying to the colony in annual instalments or otherwise, a sum amounting in the case of coolies hereafter imported to 45 dollars, in the case of those already in the colony to the same sum, less by nine dollars, for every year which they shall have already resided in the colony.

20. There is no injustice in requiring that the coolies should pay for their own return passages in the manner in which that payment has been imposed upon them by the system originally suggested by Lord Grey, and which had the assent of the Court of Directors; that is, by a stamp duty on engagements indirectly falling upon the wages of labour, or by a monthly tax directly levied. But the scheme of the present ordinance is by no means calculated to produce the same results. If the coolie is left to pay for his return passage by instalments or not, as he pleases, the result will often be that he will neglect the payment of the instalments, and be unable from want of funds, at the expiration of his term of residence, to leave the colony, even were he ever so desirous to do so. And it is always to be borne in mind that the family whom the coolie has left behind is interested in his return as well as himself, and that the Indian Government is justified in taking the state of Indian communities into account, in reference to the facilities afforded for the

BRITISH GUIANA.

coolies return. Now the tax may be fairly made the means of reimbursing the colony, but not of preventing the coolies return.

21. If the provisions of the ordinance on this head were otherwise unobjectionable, it would be impossible to overlook the fact that sect. 46 does not even make provision for giving the coolie the benefit of the time during which he has served under his original contract. It is enacted absolutely that he is to repay the expense of his introduction, and makes no arrangement at all for his only making a repayment proportionate to the time of his contract remaining unexpired.

22. Under both the heads to which I have adverted, the changes made are open to very serious objections, and I am under the necessity of signifying to you Her Majesty's disallowance of the Ordinance No. 3, of 1853, which you will cause to be notified in the usual manner.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Newcastle.*

— No. 11. —

No. 11.
Duke of Newcastle to Governor Barkly.
26 May 1853.

(No. 54.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from His Grace the Duke of *Newcastle* to Governor *Barkly*.

Sir, Downing-street, 26 May 1853.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 12th March last,* No. 41, reporting the arrival of the "Samuel Boddington" with Chinese immigrants.

* Page 38.

I referred this despatch for the report of the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners. I transmit to you herewith a copy of their reply, and I have to express my concurrence in their views of the several questions raised in your despatch.

14 May 1853.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Newcastle.*

Enclosure in No. 11.

Encl. in No. 11.

Colonial Land and Emigration Office,
14 May 1853.

Sir,

No. 41.
12 March 1853.

1. WE beg to acknowledge your letter of the 6th instant, enclosing the copy of a despatch from the Governor of British Guiana, reporting the arrival in that colony of the ship "Samuel Boddington" with Chinese immigrants.

2. This is a private ship despatched from Amoy, not under any engagement with this Board, or under any Government regulations, but with a view to obtain the colonial bounty of 100 dollars, promised by a proclamation of the 21st of April 1852 to the importers of Chinese immigrants.

3. The conditions under which the bounty is payable are declared by the ordinance No. 22, of 1851; the immigrants must be agricultural labourers, and their families under the age of 40 years, and not incapacitated from labour by infirmity or disease.

4. The ship is said to have left Amoy on the 23d of November, with 352 emigrants on board. The surgeon complains that a great number of them are disabled by diseases of various kinds, and that they were shipped in a disgraceful state of destitution; his remonstrances, he says, were met by the answer, that he must take those selected for him or none, and to this he felt himself obliged to submit.

5. The voyage he states to have been a turbulent, and it certainly was a disastrous one; 41 deaths are reported; in the opinion of the surgeon these were principally cases of opium eaters, whose systems were unable to bear the deprivation of their accustomed stimulant; one, however, was found dead under circumstances which would lead to the inference that he had been murdered. Eleven more persons are unaccounted for, and as several men appear to have attempted suicide by leaping overboard when excited by their quarrels with each other, these men are conjectured to have perished in this way; if the statements in the surgeon's journal are to be depended upon it would appear not less probable that they may have been killed; the Governor doubts whether they were ever placed on board. But we observe that on the 13th of February the emigrants were mustered, and the number unaccounted for was then only six; five therefore certainly disappeared during the five weeks which occurred after that date, and it does not seem surprising that six should have disappeared from the same unascertained causes during the previous eight or nine weeks. During part of the voyage serious apprehensions were entertained of a mutiny among the emigrants; but it is not clear that these were not imaginary, especially as the surgeon alleges that the ship was considered when at St. Helena to have contrasted favourably with other cooly ships in point of "order, regularity, and perfect cleanliness." Cases are mentioned of other crimes which will afford matter for serious consideration when this immigration is renewed.

6. The

6. The ship arrived at Demerara on the 4th of March, after a voyage of which the length is differently stated at 96, 98, and 101 days, but which is described as "very rapid." And two questions appear to have arisen respecting the payment of bounty: first (owing, we presume, to the surgeon's complaints of bad selection), whether the immigrants were effective agricultural labourers; and secondly, whether any fine should be imposed on the master on account of the unquestionable fact, that the numbers placed on board were largely in excess of those allowed by the Passengers' Act.

7. The first question was settled by a report from two planters nominated to examine the immigrants, which was to the effect that they were well adapted to agricultural purposes.

8. The second is referred for the decision of this Board under the following circumstances. The Passengers' Act imposes a penalty on the masters of ships carrying more than the allowed number of passengers "from any port or place within Her Majesty's possessions to any port or place whatever," the amount of the fine being not more than 5 *l.* nor less than 2 *l.* on each passenger above the prescribed number; the "Samuel Boddington" is said to have carried 40 adults more than she was entitled to carry, even under the tonnage check (leaving out of sight the more stringent check of space). But the Governor observes, first, that it was doubtful whether the Passengers' Act applies to a voyage from Amoy to British Guiana; and secondly, that it would have been difficult to obtain evidence of the number placed on board. He has, therefore, as a kind of compromise, accepted from the master a bond for 80 *l.*, being the minimum penalty on the assumed excess; and he leaves this to be enforced by this Board, if we shall think fit.

9. Mr. Barkly also reports that the surgeon of the ship, Mr. Ely, who is also a partner in a commercial firm at Bombay, and who by his connexion with the opium trade has become well acquainted with "the less frequented ports and villages on the Chinese coast," considers that the Chinese women are not averse from emigrating "when the vigilance of the mandarins can be avoided," and that 600 might be engaged from either of the five ports (including Whampoa and Amoy) which he names. Mr. Ely offers on the part of his firm to accomplish satisfactorily, on suitable conditions, such an importation of Chinese females; and he transmits through Governor Barkly, an offer to furnish such shipping as this Board may require for Chinese emigration during six years, with fitting provisions and other requisites at the rate of 20 *l.* per statute adult.

10. The practical question, therefore, which arise on the present papers, are whether the owners of the "Samuel Boddington" shall be compelled to pay the sum specified in the bond of the master, and whether either of the proposals of Mr. Ely shall be accepted.

11. In regard to the fine, we have no hesitation in expressing our opinion that a voyage from China to the West Indies does not fall, as it was certainly never intended to fall, within the provisions of the Passengers' Act. The acknowledgement, therefore, in the bond that a penalty has been incurred under that Act appears to us manifestly erroneous, and although Mr. Ely's statement gives every reason to believe that the selection and shipping of emigrants was extremely ill conducted by the firm who were charged with its management in China (Messrs. Tait & Co.), yet as no English law has been broken, we do not think that Government could properly enforce a bond entered into solely on the mistaken supposition that such a law had been broken, and a penalty incurred.

12. The only open question appears to us to have been one arising under the third section of the Colonial Ordinance, No. 22 of 1851, to which we have before now called attention. It may be argued that this section required as a condition of receiving bounty that the importers should have complied with all of those provisions of the Passengers' Act which are capable of being applied to the particular immigration in which they were concerned. But the colonial authorities appear to have assumed that the Ordinance was not capable of this construction, and have accordingly paid the full bounty due on the immigrants introduced by this ship. It appears to us that their decision is right. But even were it otherwise, it is not one with which we could have interfered, or which we have any authority to reverse.

13. Although, therefore, the history of this ship affords the strongest argument for placing this immigration in future under strict Government superintendence, we do not think that it would justify this Board in taking advantage of the bond given under an entire misapprehension of the law by the master of the ship.

14. With regard to the first of Dr. Ely's proposals, we would point out that this gentleman who "makes no secret" that his firm is engaged in an illicit trade, appears to contemplate obtaining female emigrants from ports not legally open to English trade, and by eluding the vigilance of the mandarins. We think it would not be possible for the Government to accept such an offer of assistance. But it is evident that the question respecting the mode of encouraging a female immigration, will be most properly answered when Mr. White shall have arrived in this country.

15. With regard to Dr. Ely's tender of shipping, we have only to observe that the terms proposed are such as to involve a serious increase in the present cost of the emigration; since for 20 *l.* he offers not to obtain and convey the emigrant, but merely to convey them when selected from China to the West Indies. Morever, he proposes that this very high rate of passage-money should be paid for six years, during which time, if the emigration proceeds, there is every reason to hope that its expense may be materially reduced.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

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— No. 12. —

(No. 55.)

No. 12. Duke of Newcastle to Governor Barkly. 26 May 1853.

COPY of a DESPATCH from His Grace the Duke of *Newcastle* to Governor *Barkly*.

Sir, Downing-street, 26 May 1853.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 10th* March last, No. 38, transmitting an extract from the minutes of the Combined Court, with certain resolutions passed by the Court in reference to the continuance of immigration into British Guiana.

* Page 37.

In my despatch of the 14th inst., No. 48,† I informed you of the disallowance of the Immigration Ordinance No. 3, of 1853. As these resolutions, so far as regards the financial part of the proposed arrangements, are founded on the assumption that contracts for five years, as provided for in that ordinance, would have been allowed, I need not advert to the arrangement, further than to express my entire concurrence in your views as to the impolicy of looking to borrowed monies to defray the expense of future immigration.

† Page 115.

I have authorised the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners to give directions for the conveyance of 2,500 coolie emigrants, and 1,500 Chinese immigrants to British Guiana, during the next season. The authority for the Chinese must, however, be considered as contingent on the decision that may be taken on the question as to the continuance and proper management of emigration from China, which will have to be considered by Her Majesty's Government immediately on the return of Mr. White to this country.

I have to request that you will inform the Combined Court, that Her Majesty's Government in at once acceding to their wishes as to the number of immigrants, have taken the step in full reliance that the Court will provide for whatever expenditure may be incurred in excess of the balance of the guaranteed loan remaining unexpended.

You will further inform the Court that Her Majesty's Government do not deem it expedient to communicate with the Dutch Government as to the emigration of Chinese from Java, nor can Her Majesty's Government hold out any hope of a compliance with the resolution as regards emigration from the continent of Africa.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Newcastle*.

— No. 13. —

(No. 56.)

No. 13. Duke of Newcastle to Governor Barkly. 26 May 1853.

COPY of a DESPATCH from His Grace the Duke of *Newcastle* to Governor *Barkly*.

Sir, Downing-street, 26 May 1853.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 14th* inst., No. 48, informing you of the disallowance of the Immigration Ordinance No. 3, of 1853, I have to acquaint you that should any of the coolies who have accepted the commuted allowance for remaining in the colony for a further period of five years, have been compelled to enter into contracts for that period, it will be your duty to take immediate proceedings for cancelling them.

* Page 115.

It may be doubtful whether the disallowance of the ordinance will enable you to do this without the aid of the local Legislature; on this point you will consult your law officers, and should such prove to be the case, you will cause an ordinance to be submitted to the Court of Policy for annulling these contracts, or at least for limiting their duration to the period already allowed, of three years.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Newcastle*.

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No. 14.
Duke of Newcastle to Governor Barkly.
30 May 1853.

19 May 1853.

— No. 14. —

(No. 57.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from His Grace the Duke of *Newcastle* to Governor *Barkly*.

Sir, Downing-street, 30 May 1853.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, with copies of communications from Mr. White, on the subject of emigration from China.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Newcastle*.

Enclosure in No. 14.

Colonial Land and Emigration Office,
19 May 1853.

Encl. in No. 14.

Sir,

1. WE beg to enclose the copy of a letter from Mr. White, the emigration agent at China, dated the 23d of February last, also extracts from a private letter from that gentleman dated the 10th of March last.

2. It will be seen that Mr. White has found himself unable to despatch any emigrants under the rate of 100 dollars a head (the "Martin Luther" having failed to perform her contract), and that he is endeavouring to set on foot a system of registration at Hong Kong which will dispense with the agency of native cooly brokers.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

Sub-Enclosure 1, to Enclosure in No. 14.

(No. 10.)

Sir, Hong Kong, 23 February 1853.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt by last mail of your letter of 23d December, conveying instructions from Sir John Pakington, "to make arrangements for sending out, if possible, 2,000 Chinese emigrants to Jamaica before the expiration of the present emigration season."

I regret having to state in reply, that I see little prospect of being able to fulfil any portion of these instructions during the present season, owing entirely to the want of vessels. Very few have arrived within the last month, and these have been either under previous engagements or have been chartered at rates exceeding the amount I feel authorized to give, so as to bring the total cost of emigration within the limit of 100 dollars a man. But besides this, the captains and crews of vessels are deterred from engaging in the emigration service, in consequence of the many disasters that have occurred recently on board of Chinese emigrant ships, and the captains prefer, even at lower rates of freights, any other engagement that may offer. The "Medina," now at Namoa, and intended for Cuba, and the "Nepaul," at Amoy, intended for Peru, have both been detained for some time past, owing to the positive refusal of the crews to go on the voyage with Chinese emigrants. Some little time will have to elapse ere the feeling of insecurity which now prevails can be expected to give way to confidence in the regulations of a well-organized emigration.

An arrangement may perhaps be made for the "Lord Hungerford," 38 days from Singapore, and now daily expected, and there are several American whalers in port, with oil for the United States, which they are anxious to tranship. It is possible that an arrangement may be made with the vessels that take this oil to land emigrants in Demerara, provided they are suitable for the service. Vessels are detained in Australia from want of hands, and I am informed that the few that have got away, induced by the report that freights were higher in India, have gone there in preference to coming to China.

The "Lady Flora Hastings," three weeks from Hong Kong, had not arrived at Namoa by the last advices. I would have gone up in her if I had not been in daily expectation of the arrival of the "Martin Luther." After her departure no opportunity occurred until within the last few days (the communications along the coast are very irregular and uncertain), and I did not avail myself of it, as I should probably arrive after she had sailed. The emigrants were ready, and waiting for her, and she will suffer no delay unless anything should occur in regard to the crew.

Many incidents that have occurred within the last few weeks tend to confirm my opinion that Hong Kong is better adapted for carrying on emigration to the British West Indies than any other point on the south coast of China, and I have every reason to believe, from

BRITISH GUIANA.

the information I have received, that good field labourers may be obtained in considerable numbers from the mainland.

Besides this, from its central position, emigrants may be readily collected here from other ports, and will be under the immediate supervision and inspection of the local Government. I have also secured the co-operation of the missionaries, both English and American, and have in hand a plan of registration which I think chimes in well with Chinese notions, and will give a character of respectability to the emigration.

No. 1.

I enclose copy of contract drawn up in accordance with the Chinese forms, and which they will understand better than the common English forms. It embraces some points as to which it may be necessary to obtain the sanction of the colonial governments in the West Indies, but which I have thought requisite under present circumstances, in order to draw a distinction between the emigration to the British West Indies and all other emigration favourable to the former. They are also consistent with the Chinese ideas of fair play, and a certain amount of freedom of action necessary to a contract intended to be for five years' duration. For the Chinese version I am indebted to Mr. Medhurst, interpreter to the Superintendence of Trade.

It is my impression, from all that I have seen, that it will be better and safer at the first outset of this emigration that the agent should be authorized to lay in the provisions for the voyage, instead of leaving this important matter to other parties who may have too strong an interest in reducing the cost, and the consumption, to a lower point than is consistent with the welfare of the emigration. With this view, and for the information of the Commissioners, I annex an estimate of the victualling and clothing for the voyage;

No. 2.

140 days appears to me a sufficient allowance for the voyage during the north-east moonsoon, and 30 days ought to be added if the vessel leaves after the 10th April, or rather the 31st March, in order to render the supply abundantly sufficient.

	$. c.
Average cost per man of provisions for the voyage of 140 days - - -	12 51
Cost of clothing - - - - - - - - - - - - -	4 33
Add—For sundries, such as biscuit, fresh vegetables, musical instruments, medical comforts and native medicines, and various small supplies, an average cost of - - - - - - - - - - - - -	1 50
	18 35
Estimated cost of agency, secondary commissions, office, depôt, feeding, &c. -	6 25
Total estimated cost in China - - - - -	24 60
To this must be added the two months' advance of wages, say at four dollars - (To be recovered out of wages in the colony.)	8 —
$.	32 60

This sum of $ 32. 60. represents the amount which the agent should be authorized to draw for, provided the Commissioners sanction the arrangement, and will be less in proportion to the amount which the Commissioners may disapprove.

There will be also some additional expense for interpreters and for surgeons, if it shall be found necessary to engage surgeons here, either Europeans or Chinese.

In estimating the disbursements that may be required here on account of emigration, I have placed them at high rates, so as to obviate the chances of failure at the onset as the result of a mistaken economy; but I am satisfied that many items may be gradually reduced and improvements effected, as experience shall point out the best system of conducting this emigration. I am the more anxious about it at present, owing to the disasters that have occurred to many of the vessels engaged in other emigration.

Under the system suggested ships would have to find only water, fuel, and the necessary fittings, and, if chartered in England, to provide also a surgeon for the voyage.

It has been suggested to me that if the agents were authorized to make a small advance on account of the freight, so as to cover the necessary disbursements of the vessel in port on account of emigration, it would give facility to the chartering of vessels. From 1 *l.* to 2 *l.*, according to the number of passengers the vessel could carry, would be sufficient for the purpose.

I offer this merely as a suggestion, and am not as yet prepared to recommend it without experience of its necessity.

I have had occasion to alter some parts of the instructions to captains taking charge of emigrants, and must defer sending them until next mail.

As the supply of fuel (2 lbs. of firewood per day) was found to be inadequate, according to the statement of the captain of the "Clarendon," it will be advisable in future charters to increase the amount to 3 lbs.

I annex

No. 3.

I annex extract from a letter which I have just received from Mr. Syme of the firm of Syme, Muir & Co., Amoy. It would appear that some arrangements had been made in England for emigration to Jamaica, independently of the order from Sir John Pakington, conveyed to me in your last letter of the 23d December.

I have, &c.
(signed) *James T. White.*

P.S.—I am informed by the Dutch consul at Canton that the Government intend to try the emigration of Chinese and Javanese from Java to Surinam.

Whatever arrangements the Commissioners may think proper to make in regard to the penalty of the "Martin Luther," at least the expenses which have been incurred here in anticipation of her arrival ought to be refunded; of these I will send a statement next mail.

The gross freight of the "Lord Warriston," for which vessel Messrs. Turner & Co. were in treaty, for Demerara, is represented to me to be as follows:—

	$.
Say, 1,000 tons of cargo, at 20 dollars - - -	20,000
„ 450 Chinese - - 20 „ - - -	22,500
$.	42,500

The Chinese finding their own provisions.

(signed) *J. T. W.*

S. Walcott, Esq., Secretary
Colonia, Land and Emigration Commissioners.

(No. 1.)

PROPOSED FORM of CONTRACT for CHINESE EMIGRANTS to the *West Indies*.

I, A. B., a native of district in the province of the Empire of China, hereby enter into agreement with J. K., acting on behalf of the Government of the British colony of , on the following conditions:—

The said A. B. agrees to embark on board the ship or vessel called , whereof O. P. is master, and to proceed to . On arrival there he undertakes to obey the orders of the Government Emigration Agent, and to enter into an agreement with such employer as the said agent shall select, to do service with him for the term of five years from the date of his arrival in the said colony as cultivator or agriculturist, or as labourer or servant, during which term he A. B. is to till the soil, clear ground, plough, manufacture sugar, tend cattle, make drains, construct embankments, and all such like work, completing each day four and a half Chinese hours, or nine hours of steady continuous labour, and dutifully serving and obeying his employer, neither stealthily working for his own benefit or that of any other party, nor absenting himself without leave. During such term of five years he agrees moreover to allow one dollar per month to be deducted from his wages until the sum of dollars, received by him in advance, shall have been paid off.

In consideration hereof, he A. B. distinctly understands that J. K. will find him a passage to , provide him with food and necessaries upon the voyage, after arrival find him employment as above described through the Government Immigration Agent, at the rate of four dollars per English month, furnish him annually with two suits of clothes, viz. two cotton jackets, two ditto trowsers, one bamboo hat, one felt hat, and one blanket, find him in medicines and medical attendance if he fall sick, and furnish him with an ample supply of food, viz.:—10 lbs. rice; 3½ lbs. beef, pork or salt fish; 1 lb. sugar; 3 oz. tea, per week of seven days. Should he A. B. be unwilling to receive the above-mentioned allowances of food, &c., an additional monthly payment of two dollars can be given him instead, and with it a piece of land to cultivate for his own benefit. Provided always, that he A. B. shall not be called upon to work upon Sundays unless in cases of necessity, when he shall be entitled to receive extra pay, at the rate of 24 cents a day. Provided also, that should he A. B., after arrival, repent the agreement, and be unwilling to carry it out, he may do so on giving one month's notice of his intention, and on re-payment of such part of the expense incurred in conveying him to the colony, as shall be proportioned to the time of service not rendered.

Agreement entered into by A. B. on the day of the month of the year 185 .

(No. 2.)

VICTUALLING and Clothing Estimate for 200 Chinese Emigrants for a Passage of 140 days.

	Men.	Daily Ration per Man.	Total Daily Ration.	Estimated Voyage. Days.	Total lbs. for the Voyage.	Total Piculs.		$. c.
Rice	200	1½ lb.	300	140	42,000	315 –	At $. 2	630 –
Fish	200	½ „	100	40	4,000	30 –	„ 6	180 –
Beef	200	½ „	100	50	5,000	*Barrels.* 25	„ 25	625 –
Pork	200	½ „	100	50	5,000	25	„ 25	625 –
Lard	200	½ oz.	6¼	140	875	*P. c.* 6 57	„ 9 per p.	57 13
Pickled vegetables	200	3 „	37½	140	5,250	39 50	„ 1½ „	59 25
Cigars	200	*Cigars.* 10	2,000	140	280,000	– –	20 cents per 1,000	56 –

WEEKLY RATION.

			Lbs.	*Weeks.*	*Lbs.*	*P. c.*		
Salt	200	1 oz.	12½	20	250 (say)	2 –	At 25 cents per p.	– 50
Tea	200	3½ „	43½	20	875	6 56	„ $. 20 „	130 –
Pepper	200	1 „	12½	20	250 (say)	2 –	„ 7 „	14 –
Vinegar	200	*Pint.* ½	*Pints.* 100	20	*Pints.* 2,000, or	*Gallons.* 250	„ 50 cents per gal.	125 –
							200 men at $. 12. 51. per head – – – $.	2,501 88

CLOTHING.

	$. c.
1 Blue jacket and trowsers	– 90
1 White do. do.	– 90
1 Warm jacket	– 90
1 Blanket	1 25
1 Pair shoes	– 15
1 Cap	– 12
1 Bamboo hat	– 12
$. 4 34 × 200 =	868 –
200 Men at $. 16. 85. per head – – – $.	3,369 88

Add—For biscuits, fresh vegetables, musical instruments, medical comforts, native medicines, and various small supplies, an average cost of $. 1. 50. per man, for 200 men, is – – – – – – – – – – – – 300 –

$. 3,669 88

Giving an average cost of $. 18. 35. per man for clothing and victualling on the voyage.

The prices of the different articles are stated at about the average rate of cost so as to ensure the best quality.

(No. 3.)

EXTRACT of a Letter from *T. D. Syme*, dated Amoy, 20 February 1853.

"EMIGRATION is stopped here for the present, not for want of men, for plenty are offering, but for want of ships. I have been unfortunate in my English charters for Cuba; they were all conditional, and the vessels have never come forward. I expect one for Jamaica in a few days, and I hear of contracts for Brazil, but I fancy Captain Fishbourne's report will frighten them."

Sub-Enclosure 2, to Enclosure in No. 14.

EXTRACTS of Letter from *James T. White*, Esq., to Sir *Frederic Rogers*, Bart.; dated Hong Kong, 10 March 1853.

"SINCE my last letter to the Commissioners of the 23d February, everything remains very much in the same position. Shipping is still very scarce, and not to be had on reasonable terms. A few days ago there were eight vessels loading for California, at Whampoa and here. It is difficult to find out exactly at what freights, as freights and passenger's fare are mixed up together, but the "Jamestown," an American vessel now loading here, will gross not less than 40,000 dollars. She is about 12,000* tons register and carries 2,200.* Instead of ballast the captain takes 400 to 500 tons of granite slabs, at 17 dollars a ton, and the rest of his freight will probably average not less than 20 dollars per ton. While such rates prevail you will readily perceive that it is hardly possible to obtain vessels for the emigration service, at such an amount for every emigrant landed as will bring the total cost within 100 dollars. Add to this that the captains of vessels are frightened in consequence of the recent disasters on board of coolie vessels, and prefer any other employment that offers. I enclose copy of a letter from captain of "Thetis," (formerly engaged in taking coolies from Calcutta to the West Indies, and recently in taking Chinese to the Sandwich Islands), which will show you the feeling that prevails among them in reference to this emigration. While such a feeling exists, I feel unwilling to push matters too eagerly forward. Nothing has yet happened to any of our vessels at sea, but if anything untoward should happen, it would confirm the prejudice and alarm against Chinese emigration, and perhaps rouse public feeling against it in England. Looking to the future success of emigration, I believe it is better and more politic to bend to the present difficulties, and to start fresh next season. * * *

* So in copy.

No. 1.

"By next season all this will have passed away, and vessels must be arranged for at home, to convey at least one half of the number of emigrants that may be required. I am still of opinion that taking all things into consideration, Hong Kong will be found the best port for establishing a system of emigration, and that in time emigrants will come here from the country to seek for it, without the intervention of the crimps or any other disreputable agencies. It is matter of regret to me that the 'Martin Luther' did not come here. In point of size she would have answered admirably for the first experiment, for as long as the emigration from this is untried and new, I am unwilling to risk the detention that might arise at first with a vessel of large size. The 'Thetis,' of about 460 tons, would answer well, but I am afraid that there is little chance of obtaining her.

"The registration scheme appears to work satisfactorily, but it has not been pressed lately, as I was afraid it might lead to disappointment if the people registered should not find a vessel ready to receive them within a reasonable time. I enclose the form of ticket that has been given to the applicants.

No. 2.

"I shall remain here until the 11th April, after which it would hardly be prudent to send vessels down against the south-west monsoon. I shall, however, probably make an arrangement with Turner & Co., to enable them to send on the rest of the people for Demerara, as arranged by the Land and Emigration Commissioners, to the number of 1,200. The total number dispatched by them as yet, being only 635, say per 'Glentanner' 305, and per 'S. Boddington,' 330. * * * *

"The 'Lady Flora Hastings' was to leave Namoa on the 4th; all well. She was 23 days in beating up. The 'Lord Hungerford' is still out, although 53 days from Singapore. This shows the force and continuance of the monsoons.

"In reference to the form of contract which I sent home by last mail, for the approval of the Commissioners, I wish it to be understood that it is drawn up to meet the views of the Chinese, and is perfectly satisfactory to them. I found it necessary to put in the clause enabling them to retire from their contract, on paying the cost of their introduction to the colony, in order to give them confidence, and to show them that they would be perfectly free agents, whenever they could reimburse the cost of their introduction. Nothing is stated in regard to the 'monthly tax' which they will have to pay, if they choose to work on their own account instead of under contract, as I found that this was associated in their minds with 'general taxation,' or being 'squeezed,' from which, with the experience they have of the latter from their own authorities, they seem instinctively to recoil. This point can easily be explained to them on their arrival in the colony, and they will immediately take advantage of it, whenever they find out that it may be a benefit for them to do so.

"In reference to this form of contract, I annex extract of a letter from Mr. Hunter of Macao. This gentlemen was formerly a partner in the house of Russell & Co., speaks the language fluently, and from his intimate knowledge of the Chinese character, I consider his opinion valuable. The old 'Tremelga' ship to which his note refers, is barely seaworthy"

No. 3.

BRITISH GUIANA.

(No. 1.)

(EXTRACT.)

"Whampoa, 5 March 1853.

"I AM just now in receipt of your favour of the 2d, and thank you for thinking of the 'Thetis.' My experience of coolie carrying and the result to other vessels of late, does not encourage me to embark in it again, especially as the freight you offer is not more than I can get with the quiet passengers' bales, bags and boxes.

"I am glad to hear from you that the emigration is conducted on satisfactory terms in your instance, for it would be a fine thing for shipping if carried on so to any extent, and if we could see a probability of arriving at our destination with our heads on.

(signed) "*John Cass.*"

(No. 2.)

"THE bearer , of , province , has been entered as an applicant emigrant to the British West Indies, subject to surgical approval, as No. on the list , age , tail , hands .

"Hong Kong,

"1853."

(No. 3.)

(EXTRACT.)

"Macao, 9 March 1853.

"I DO not see that there will be the slightest difficulty in getting able-bodied Chinese in any number, to go under such a contract as this is, where their interests are greatly benefited and guarded. Here there are a great number of coolies anxious to go abroad, almost anywhere, but there are no vessels to be had. Even the old 'Tremelga,' I am told, is being fitted out to take a cargo to Cuba.

(signed) "*W. C. Hunter.*"

— No. 15. —

No. 15. Duke of Newcastle to Lieut.-Governor Walker.

(No. 73.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from his Grace the Duke of *Newcastle* to Lieut.-Governor Walker.

Sir, Downing-street, 20 June 1853.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, an extract from a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, with extract of one from Mr. White, the emigration agent in China, reporting the circumstances under which he had despatched the ship "Emigrant" with Chinese, for British Guiana.

4 June 1853. Ext.

I concur with the Commissioners that Mr. White in so doing, judged rightly.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Newcastle.*

Enclosure 1 in No. 15.

Encl. in No. 15. EXTRACT of a Letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners to *Herman Merivale*, Esq.; dated 4 June 1853.

"IT will be perceived that a fourth ship (the 'Emigrant') has been chartered for Demerara, which we understand is capable of carrying 360 or 370 persons; and that Mr. White has taken on himself to promise to the shippers the full bounty of 100 dollars per adult, though the ship was despatched after the 31st of March. We have no doubt that in so doing he has judged rightly.

"It is of course impossible, in the present state of things, to make arrangements for despatching shipping from this country to take in emigrants early in the season. This must form matter for consideration on Mr. White's arrival."

Sub-Enclosure

BRITISH GUIANA.

Sub-Enclosure to Enclosure in No. 15.

EXTRACT of a Letter from *James T. White*, Esq., to Sir *Frederic Rogers*, Bart.

Canton, 26 March 1853.

"I AM duly in receipt of your favour of the 19th January. I came up to Canton a few days ago to see Messrs. Turner & Co., and to make arrangements in reference to the 'Emigrant,' a vessel taken up by them for Demerara. This vessel is 763 tons' measurement, well appointed in all respects, and well adapted to carrying emigrants. She took out emigrants to Australia; is 7 feet 6 between decks, has water-casks on board, and nearly all the necessary fittings, and will be ready for sea in a few days. She cannot, however, be got ready before the 31st March, at which date the full bounty of 100 dollars will cease, in terms of the Governor's proclamation, but as it was impossible to procure any vessels at an earlier date, and the emigrants may be considered as ready and only waiting the opportunity, I have taken upon myself the responsibility of assuring Messrs. Turner & Co. that in this case the full bounty would be payable, provided the Governor is satisfied that the spirit of the Passengers' Act has been complied with, and the emigrants fairly and justly treated. This is the last vessel that will leave this season. Indeed at present no other vessels can be obtained, and even if any should arrive within the next few days, it would probably require six weeks' time to unload cargo and get the necessary fittings, thus throwing the shipment of the emigrants into the middle of May, too late in the season to be perfectly safe, under present circumstances. A long voyage down the China sea, with land often in sight, is attended with a certain amount of risk, and might give rise to mutiny, and the determination to get on shore at all hazards. Whereas, if a vessel starts with flowing sheets, and carries the north-east monsoon down with her, she is out of all that sort of danger in a few days. Should anything untoward happen now to a vessel bound for Demerara or Trinidad, it would probably damage the cause of emigration very materially, and I think it therefore more prudent to stop further proceedings for the present (after the sailing of the 'Emigrant'), and leave the further engagements for Demerara and Jamaica to be carried out next season.

"For next season early arrangements ought to be made, and emigration commenced in September, so that vessels may leave with the first of the monsoon in October. Two-thirds of the number of labourers required ought to be despatched from this before the 31st December. The number now sent to Demerara and Trinidad will be sufficient to test the question as to their suitableness for tropical labour in the West Indies, and if they are found to answer, an unlimited supply may be depended on. Let the people here once have a feeling of confidence in this emigration, and in time it will flow into the West Indies almost spontaneously.

"I propose to leave this by the steamer of the 11th of next month. I could be of little service by remaining longer, and it is to be hoped that the emigration of next season will open under more favourable circumstances than has been the case this season.

"I am afraid there would be difficulty in establishing regulations for British vessels taking Chinese to Cuba, Peru or other foreign places. If made too rigid, they would throw the carrying of emigrants entirely into the hands of Spanish or Peruvian shipowners. This emigration is also carried on now almost entirely from Namoa and Cumsingmoon (opium stations), and Macao, where there are no British consuls.

"If fresh charters are made in England, it would be well to alter the 2d clause, which provides that the Governor, in the absence of the agent, shall signify some port between Canton and Amoy to which the vessel shall repair. As all trade is forbidden by treaty, except what takes place at the five ports this clause requires the Governor to do what would be construed as a breach of international engagement. This had better be left to the agent, or some person authorized by him to act in the matter in case of absence."

— No. 16. —

(No. 77.)

No. 16.
Duke of Newcastle to Lieut.-Governor Walker.
29 June 1853.

COPY of a DESPATCH from His Grace the Duke of *Newcastle* to Lieutenant-Governor *Walker*.

Sir, Downing-street, 29 June 1853.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith for your information a copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, with copies of two further letters from Mr. White, the emigration agent in China.

15 June 1853.
9 April 1853.
16 April 1853.

I have to instruct you to give directions for providing a passage to Trinidad for the Chinese interpreter, as suggested to the Emigration Commissioners.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Newcastle*.

BRITISH GUIANA.

Enclosure in No. 16.

Encl. in No. 16.

Colonial Land and Emigration Office,
15 June 1853.

Sir,

9 April, No. 12.
16 April, No. 14.

We have the honour to enclose herewith, for the information of the Duke of Newcastle, copies of two letters which we have received from Mr. White the emigration agent at Hong Kong.

2. In the first of these letters, he reports the despatch of the "Lady Flora Hastings" with emigrants to Trinidad, and encloses various papers connected with that vessel, of which we think it unnecessary to trouble the Duke of Newcastle with copies. He likewise explains the circumstances under which he had promised a bounty of 100 dollars each on the Chinese, conveyed by the "Emigrant" to British Guiana, notwithstanding that the vessel will not sail till after the 31st March; this subject was referred to in the private letter which we transmitted to you on the 4th instant, and Mr. White's further explanation confirms our opinion, that he exercised a sound judgment in the matter; and considering the value which the planters in British Guiana place on the services of the Chinese, we cannot doubt that they will prefer to pay the higher price than not to obtain them at all. We enclose copy of Mr. White's letter to Messrs. Turner on this subject. He likewise reports having engaged two interpreters, the one for British Guiana and the other for Trinidad, the latter of whom would have to be forwarded to Trinidad from British Guiana. We apprehend that the necessary instructions for providing this man with a passage should be transmitted to the Acting Governor of British Guiana, and that the description of the qualifications of these two men, and the contracts made with them, of which copies are enclosed, should be communicated to the Governors of British Guiana and Trinidad respectively.

No. 7: dated 26 March 1853, in Mr. White's letter of 9 April.

No. 10,
No. 11,
in Mr. White's letter of 9 April.

3. Lastly, Mr. White states the circumstances under which he had decided to place on board the "Emigrant" certain suits of clothing, which he had purchased in anticipation of being able to procure conveyance for a larger number of emigrants, but which in consequence of the impossibility of doing so remained on his hands at the end of the season. Upon the wisdom of the course which he adopted in this matter, we feel unable to pronounce any opinion. The balance of profit or loss by retaining or sending on the clothes, could be decided only by a person on the spot, and having an intimate acquaintance both with the expense of storing such articles and the risk of their deterioration. We can only suggest that this portion of Mr. White's letter should be communicated to the Acting Governor of British Guiana and to Lord Harris, in order that they may be aware of the supplies which will thus be furnished to them for return coolies, &c. It is unfortunate that we should have just contracted for 550 suits of clothing for Trinidad, under the instructions contained in your letter of 29th April last; but it is not impossible that the Acting Governor of British Guiana may think it advisable to retain the whole supply in that colony.

4. Mr. White's second letter contains several suggestions for the future conduct of Chinese emigration. We abstain from offering any opinion on these until we shall have had an opportunity of conferring personally with Mr. White. After seeing him, it will be our duty hereafter to submit to the Duke of Newcastle our views as to the manner in which this emigration may be most advantageously carried on hereafter.

We have, &c.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Alexander Wood

Sub-Enclosure No. 1, to Enclosure in No. 16.

(No. 12.)

Sir,

Hong Kong, 9 April 1853.

I have the honour to enclose several papers connected with the "Lady Flora Hastings," which vessel left Namoa for Trinidad on the 11th ultimo. I was prevented from going up to Namoa previous to her starting, first by my detention in Hong Kong to await the arrival of the "Martin Luther"; and afterwards by the want of any opportunity that would enable me to reach Namoa in time before the date appointed for her leaving.

No. 1. Is a list of the clothing put on board for the use of the emigrants.
No. 2. List of the provisions. These were all laid in here, and I examined them and found them all perfectly good.
No. 3. Certificate of measurement as to the number of emigrants the vessel may carry.
No. 4. Certificate of sea-worthiness.
No. 5. Letter from the surgeon of the vessel.
No. 6. Letter of Instructions from Tait & Co. to the captain.

2. From private and disinterested sources I am informed that the emigrants were all fine able-bodied men, that they were highly pleased with the ship and the accommodation provided; and that they were very anxious to emigrate. The ship is well found in everything. The captain is a quiet unpretending person, who seems eager to prove that the disasters that have so often occurred have been occasioned by want of management, and not by ill feelings on the part of the Chinese emigrants; and the surgeon is sober, and, as far as I can judge, well qualified for his duties, so that I hope this vessel, starting under favourable auspices, will reach her destination without the occurrence of any untoward events. There

are

are two Chinese surgeons on board; I had arranged that one should go, but as another one offered his services afterwards who had some slight knowledge of English, and as no interpreters could be procured at Namoa, and those I expected from Penang had not arrived, Messrs. Tait & Co. engaged the second surgeon in the double capacity of interpreter and surgeon. I have since written to them sanctioning the arrangement.

3. Owing to the high rates of freight prevailing to California, and also partially to Australia, and to the reluctance, and even in some cases the positive refusal of captains and crews to engage in the emigration service, in consequence of the occurrence of so many disasters, it has been found impossible to obtain vessels to complete the emigration to Demerara. After several fruitless efforts Messrs. Turner & Co. succeeded at last in obtaining the "Emigrant." This vessel could not be got ready before the 31st March, and therefore Messrs. Turner & Co. or their principals, Hyde, Hodge & Co., would not be entitled to a higher bounty than 80 dollars for every emigrant landed. And as it became a question whether this vessel should be taken up or not, unless they got the full bounty, I decided to take the responsibility of assuring them that in this case the full bounty would be paid. The annexed copy of my letter to Messrs. Turner & Co. will explain the matter, and I trust that under the circumstances the Commissioners will consider me justified in what I have done.

No. 7, next page.

4. The "Emigrant" took out emigrants to Australia, and is in every way well found and well qualified for the service, and has on board a European surgeon. I enclose certificate of sea-worthiness, and also certificate of measurement as to the number of passengers she can legally carry. I went up to Canton last month to make the necessary arrangements, in regard to this vessel, and was anxious that she should have taken her emigrants from Hong Kong; but as Messrs. Turner & Co. (being in daily expectation of procuring vessels) had made previous arrangements for securing emigrants from Whampoa, and as the people were only waiting for an opportunity I did not like to disappoint them, or neutralize engagements partially contracted. Great care has been taken to procure only people from the country villages; and to secure this object respectable Chinese have been bound under a penalty that the men are from country villages known to them. I question if emigration from China will ever be carried on without the intervention of brokers, at least for some time, and until the system is well established at one point, and generally known. The employment of such agents is entirely consonant to Chinese ideas, and pervades every transaction of life (even marriages are concluded and arranged by this means). And they are at present necessary in order to diffuse information throughout the villages, and bring people to the port of embarkation, where they will have the opportunity of making inquiries and satisfying themselves as to the advantages of emigration.

Nos. 8 and 9.

5. Two interpreters are engaged to go by the "Emigrant." The one, Ho A. Sing, for Demerara; the other, Ong Soon Seng, for Trinidad. The latter arrived too late for the "Lady Flora Hastings," and will, therefore, have to be sent forward from Demerara. Annexed are the terms of their engagement and contracts. The former writes and speaks English, speaks the colloquial dialect of the Canton provinces, and is well versed in Chinese writing. The latter writes and speaks English with ease and fluency, and speaks the colloquial dialect of the Fohkien province, but does not understand Chinese writing. Ho A. Sing's terms may appear high, but I could not obtain his services for less, and I am indebted to Dr. Legge, of the London Missionary Society, without whose assistance I could not have obtained them at all. His knowledge of the Chinese writing will be useful, as by means of it he can communicate with the emigrants in Demerara from the Fohkien provinces, an advantage not possessed by Ong Soon Seng in reference to other emigrants in Trinidad than those from the Fohkien provinces. The Chinese written character being the same throughout all the provinces of the empire, a knowledge of it enables persons to communicate, whose spoken dialects would be perfectly unintelligible to each other. Dr. Legge gives a very high character of Ho A. Sing, and Mr. Blundell, Governor of the Straits Settlements, has also written to me a very favourable one of Ong Soon Seng. The latter appears to me very shrewd and intelligent, and I have no doubt will do credit to his appointment. Another interpreter whom I have engaged in Canton, through the intervention of one of the American missionaries, has declined to go, and returned the advance he had received; and another still refuses to go under 100 dollars a month; so that there is considerable difficulty at present in obtaining the requisite number of interpreters, a difficulty that will continue until emigration be fairly established, and it become worth the while for respectable Chinese to send their sons out of the country, in the confidence that they will be well treated, and benefit by the change.

Nos. 10 and 11.

6. When engaged in making arrangements for the "Martin Luther," I requested Messrs. Turner & Co. to procure the necessary clothing in Canton, where it can be got better and cheaper than in Hong Kong. Five hundred sets would be necessary for the "Martin Luther;" and having at the time no doubt that another vessel would be obtained to follow the "Martin Luther," I ordered 500 more sets of clothing, making in all 1,000. The "Martin Luther" having failed to arrive, and it having been found impossible to procure vessels for the emigration service, this clothing is still on hand. Messrs. Turner & Co. purchased a large quantity at the same time, and having this stock still on hand, are unwilling to increase it by taking over what was purchased by them on my account. I have been much at a loss what to do with it, but considering that it cannot be required now until next season, that rent and insurance will add considerably to the cost, and that it will probably suffer by the long storage, and be injured by the rats which swarm in Canton, I have decided upon sending it by the "Emigrant," the one-half for Demerara, and the other half

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for Trinidad. The portion for Trinidad will have to be transhipped unless the authorities in Demerara decide upon keeping it for the use of the colony. None of the clothing would have been ordered if I had not been in daily expectation of the "Martin Luther," and I hope that under the circumstances the Commissioners will approve of the step I have taken.

7. I shall leave this by the next steamer on the 11th instant. My remaining longer could be productive of no good, for under present circumstances, while the press is teeming with the disasters that have occurred to emigrant ships (and unfortunately the "Lord Elgin," arrived at the Cape, has to be added to the list), it would be highly imprudent and impolitic to despatch any vessels against the south-west monsoon. I feel that I have stretched to the last point my desire to promote emigration to the West Indies, in sanctioning the full bounty to the "Emigrant," as an inducement to Messrs. Turner & Co., and I would not have done this if the vessel had not been specially fitted and arranged for the emigration service.

8. The experience of this season has fully confirmed my former views as to the disadvantage, if not danger, of leaving the emigration from China in private hands, without sufficient responsibility, and paid by bounty or by a commission on each emigrant shipped. This system will lead to abuses, and bring discredit on the country. It must be conducted by a paid officer, responsible to Government, and to a certain extent under the orders and supervision of the local Government. The head-quarters of the emigration office should be at Hong Kong, but the agent should have authority to procure emigrants at other places, and to send vessels there, if necessary. There will be a good deal of expense in organizing an office, and proper establishment, at the commencement, but everything must be done to inspire confidence among the Chinese, so that they may come from the country to seek for emigration of their own accord, and not at the instigation of brokers, who may probably deceive them by means which our ignorance of the mainland, and our very imperfect knowledge of their habits and language, render it impossible to discover until it be too late to apply the necessary remedy.

Emigration should for the present be restricted to the period between the 1st of September and 31st of March, giving the agent authority to extend this period under certain circumstances, and with the sanction of the Governor.

In order to disabuse the public mind of the strong feeling that now prevails adverse to all emigration, I have had the notices and instructions printed, and herewith transmit a copy for the information of the Commissioners. Further experience will, no doubt, suggest alterations and improvements; meanwhile their tenor will show the anxiety of Government that this new emigration should be openly and fairly conducted, and in a manner likely to be conducive to the general benefit of all parties interested in its welfare.

I have, &c.
(signed) *James T. White.*

S. Walcott, Esq.,
Secretary Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners.

P.S.—I am afraid the Commissioners will think me troublesome in sending home so many detailed papers as to the clothing and provisions of the emigrants, the sea-worthiness and measurement of the ship, &c.; but my object has been to show generally the system under which emigration should be carried on from here, and I should not consider it necessary to forward such papers for the future.

During my stay in China my object has been not to obstruct pending arrangements, but to facilitate them in every possible way, and I have endeavoured to lead matters towards a permanent system by suggesting and recommending such points as I considered necessary; these suggestions have always been attended to.

It is matter of great regret to me that I have been able to effect so little, indeed, practically nothing; still I feel that the mere fact of the presence of an emigration agent recognised by Government has done good by inducing more caution than might otherwise have existed, and that the vessels despatched to the British West Indies since my arrival have had as much care and attention bestowed upon them as was compatible under existing circumstances with the reckless and unregulated emigration to Cuba, Peru, and elsewhere, taking place at the same time from the same ports, and by the same agents as the emigration to the British West Indies.

11 April.

(No. 7.)

Dear Sir, Canton, 26 March 1853.

I AM in receipt of your favour of the 25th, mentioning "that it will be impossible to despatch the 'Emigrant'" before 31st March, and that "from what Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co. had written to you, you infer that an engagement entered into prior to the 31st March, although the vessel may not sail before that date, will be sufficient to entitle them to the bounty offered by the Government of Demerara for the importation of Chinese field labourers."

The proclamation of the Governor of Demerara, bearing date 25th September 1852, states specifically that vessels leaving China subsequent to the 31st March will not be entitled to a higher bounty than 80 dollars for every adult field labourer landed in the colony; and therefore Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co. cannot claim, on account of the "Emigrant," a higher bounty than the sum named in the proclamation.

But

But as the charter was concluded previous to the 31st March, and as the emigrants may be considered ready to go on board, and are only waiting for the opportunity, and as it was impossible to procure vessels at an earlier period, owing to the want of shipping, I am willing to take upon myself the responsibility of assuring you that the full amount of bounty, say 100 dollars, will be paid upon the labourers per "Emigrant," provided the Governor of the colony is satisfied that the spirit of the English Passengers' Act has been fairly acted upon, and that the emigrants have been fairly and justly treated.

I remain, &c.

Messrs. Turner & Co.

P.S.—I understand that the "Emigrant" will leave not later than the 20th April.

(No. 10.)

MEMORANDUM of Agreement between *Ho A. Sing*, Native of Canton in China, now residing in Hong Kong, and *James T. White*, Agent for the Emigration of Chinese to the British West Indies.

THE said Ho A. Sing, having a knowledge of the Chinese, as spoken in the Knangtung provinces, and of Chinese writing, and also a knowledge of the English language and writing, engages to proceed to British Guiana, and to act as interpreter between the Chinese emigrating to the West Indies and all persons in authority over them. He agrees that on arrival in the West Indies he will place himself under the orders of the emigration agent, and will perform all such duties of interpreter as may be required of him by the said agent, or by such other person as may be duly authorized by the Governor.

He further agrees to serve as interpreter for a period of three years, dating from his arrival in the colony, and that during the continuance of said service he will at all times truly and faithfully interpret and explain the wants, wishes, and testimony of the Chinese emigrants; and also interpret and make known to them the wishes, orders, and instructions of their employers, or of the magistrates and persons in authority; and that he will do so either verbally or in writing in Chinese, or in English, as circumstances may require.

In consideration of the above engagement, and of the due, faithful, and ready performance of his duties, the said James T. White agrees to provide the said Ho A. Sing with a cabin passage to his destination, and to pay him as half wages for the performance of the duties of interpreter on board of ship at the rate of 20 dollars per month from the day of embarkation to the day of arrival; and further to pay him 40 dollars per month from the date of his arrival in Demerara, and the sum of 10 dollars per month additional (making 50 dollars per month) subsequent to the expiry of the first year, provided he shall conduct himself and perform his duties to the satisfaction of the Governor of the colony.

Finally, the said J. T. White engages to provide the said Ho A. Sing with a free passage back to China, if he should wish to leave British Guiana at the expiry of this agreement.

(signed) *James T. White*, E. A.
Hong Kong, 5 April 1853. *Ho A. Sing.*

Signed this 5th day of April 1853, in the presence of
(signed) *W. Scott.*
A. G. Romano.

The undersigned Ho A. Sing acknowledges to have received one hundred and twenty dollars (120 dollars), being three months' advance on the terms of this contract.

(signed) *Ho A. Sing.*

(No. 11.)

TERMS of an Agreement between *Ong Soon Seng*, a Chinese Native of Penang, and *Forbes Scott Browne*, Esq., Merchant of Penang, on behalf of *James T. White*, Esq., Government Agent for the Emigration of Chinese Coolies to Trinidad and Demerara in the West Indies.

I, ONG SOON SENG, Chinese native of Penang, do hereby engage to act truly and faithfully as an interpreter between Chinese coolies emigrating from the Fokien district of China to Trinidad or Demerara in the West Indies, and such persons as may be in authority over them.

I further agree to proceed from Penang to China, and there place myself under the orders of James T. White, Esq., for the purpose of proceeding to the West Indies, as Chinese interpreter, in such vessel as the said James T. White, Esq., may appoint.

I further agree that, on my arrival in the West Indies, I will proceed to such place and perform such duties of Chinese interpreter as may be imposed on me by the said James T. White, Esq., or by such person as may be duly authorized to impose the same.

I further agree that I will continue to serve the said James T. White, Esq., or such persons as may be legally empowered to direct me, as such Chinese interpreter, for a period of five years, that is, till the 1st March 1858; and that during all the period of such service that I will at all times truly and faithfully make known to my employers the wants and wishes of

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the Chinese cooly emigrants to the West Indies; and that I will, with the same truth and fidelity, make known to the said Chinese coolies the desires and instructions of my and their employers.

(signed) *Ong Soon Seng.*

Signed in our presence this 2d day of March 1853,

(signed) *Rob. Minter*, Jun.
A. M. D'Oliveiro.

I, FORBES SCOTT BROWN, merchant of Penang, acting for and on behalf of James T. White, Esq., Government Agent for the Emigration of Chinese coolies to Trinidad and Demerara in the West Indies, do hereby engage to pay to Ong Soon Seng, Chinese native of Penang, the sum of 16 dollars per month, as monthly wages, from the 1st of March 1853 during the period that he may be employed by the said James T. White, Esq., or by persons legally empowered to employ him as interpreter between Chinese coolies in Trinidad or Demerara, and their masters or employers, and to give him free lodgings and ordinary rations, rice and salt fish, or rice and salt meat.

I do further agree to pay at Penang, to the order of the said Ong Soon Seng, during the period above-mentioned, a portion of his monthly wages, not exceeding one-half thereof.

I do further agree to give the said Ong Soon Seng a deck passage to China per steamer, and that during his voyage from China to the West Indies he, the said Ong Soon Seng, while acting as interpreter shall be kept separate from the coolie emigrants, and shall have a separate and distinct place in the ship for his accommodation.

And last, I do further agree to provide the said Ong Soon Seng with a free passage back, either to Penang, Singapore, or China, should he wish to leave the West Indies at the expiration of this agreement.

(signed) *F. S. Brown.*

Signed in our presence this 2d day of May 1853,

(signed) *Rob. Minter*, Jun.
A. M. D'Oliveiro.

Received from Mr. F. S. Brown, as agent of James T. White, forty-eight dollars ($48), being three months' wages in advance, from 1st March, as per within agreement.

Penang, 2 March 1853, (signed) *Ong Soon Seng.*

Sub-Enclosure 2, to Enclosure in No. 6.

(No. 14.)

Sir, Steamer "Erin," 16 April 1853.

IN the hurry of addressing you previous to my leaving Hong Kong, I omitted two or three points to which I wish to advert.

1. If emigration is to be carried on next season, early arrangements are indispensable so as to allow the vessels to leave during the strength of the north-east monsoon. As a general rule they ought not to start before the 1st of September, nor later than the 31st of March.

2. I recommend that for the present, and until the emigration is brought into system, the agent be authorized to lay in the stores and provisions for the voyage. All the articles may be obtained at very reasonable and steady rates, except beef and pork; these fluctuate greatly in price, owing to the irregular demand.

3. It would probably facilitate the chartering of vessels here if the agent were authorized to advance a small sum on account of the freight, say to the extent of 2*l.* per head for each emigrant the ship could carry. This appears to have great weight with many captains, who come to this port, as it would obviate the necessity of their drawing upon the owners, or placing their vessels in the hands of a ship agent. The advance ought not to be more than sufficient to cover the disbursements in port.

4. Independent of the disinclination of captains of vessels to engage in this service, in consequence of the accidents and disasters that had occurred. I found many unwilling to undertake it, because they could not obtain insurance on their freight, I am not aware that this can in any way be obviated, but it tends to increase the rate at which emigrants would otherwise be conveyed.

5. Looking to these and other points, it has occurred to me that it might perhaps be advisable to hold out some gratuity to the captains, if the vessels and emigrants reached their destination in good order and condition. With this view I have drafted a letter, which I enclose for the information of the Commissioners, but I should not feel authorized to act on it without their sanction.

6. There is no doubt in my mind that almost every point on the south coast of China would afford a supply of able-bodied labourers. There is a large floating population of young, strong and active men, who have barely the necessaries of life, and are often driven to piracy for their subsistence. These men will all of them gladly emigrate; and while the emigration is confined to these men no abuses will take place; but if it be pushed beyond the point when this surplus labour is disposed of, then abuses commence, crimps are brought

brought into play, and men and boys are inveigled from their home, under false pretences There is at every station a turning point of labour, within which emigration would be safe and beneficial, and beyond which it would be unsafe and lead to practices by the native crimps little, if at all, short of the traffic in slaves. It was tending towards this point when the disturbances broke out at Amoy. There is little internal communication, and therefore the neighbourhood of any particular district will probably become soon exhausted if any sudden and unusual demand were made upon the labouring population. The area for emigration must be increased in proportion to the demand.

7. The abundance or scarcity of provisions will at all times greatly influence the amount of emigration and the facility of obtaining good agricultural labourers.

8. No emigration to the West Indies will be satisfactory, however well conducted, until some Chinese return to tell their own tale, the Chinese will not seek for this emigration until some of their own race return, and a few well satisfied return emigrants are the best advertisement the colonies can have. To make this emigration safe and satisfactory, confidence must be established, and I see no way so likely to promote this object as to encourage the return of a few Chinese who have done well, and are satisfied with their position in the colony. These men will soon engage in trade and ship ventures to the West Indies, as is now done to California, and this point once gained emigration will flow in a natural stream and be regulated by the wants of the colonies.

9. I enclose three returns relating to emigration from the Fohkein province to Cuba, Sydney, and elsewhere. No. 1. is a statement of the number despatched to Cuba from 1847 to date; No. 2. is a statement of the emigration to Sydney; No. 3. to Honolulu and Peru.

I have been trying to procure a similar return from Cumsingmoon and Macao, but without success. Being looked upon as a Government agent they are chary of giving me information.

10. Sir G. Bonham started so suddenly and unexpectedly for Shanghai, that I had not the opportunity I sought for to consult with him on some points I wished to submit for his decision. If anything should be required during my absence, there is no person more competent than Mr. Hillier, the chief magistrate; but practical carrying out of emigration would, I believe, be incompatible with its present duties. I have derived a good deal of assistance from Mr. W. Scott, an old resident here, and well known to the Chinese. I know of no one better qualified than he is to take charge of a limited emigration, if his appointment were acceptable to Sir G. Bonham.

11. If the Government think that my services can be of use for the emigration of future seasons, I shall be prepared to place myself at their disposal. Meanwhile as nothing can be done, or ought to be done, before September, nothing is lost by my leaving China during the intervening period. I shall wait upon the Commissioners as soon as I arrive in London.

I have, &c.

S. Walcott, Esq., Secretary (signed *James T. White.*
Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners.

P.S.—More extended inquiry leads me to think that women may be induced to emigrate from the villages in the neighbourhood of Hong Kong. Many of the intending emigrants who applied at the office to be registered, stated that they would send for their wives and children after they had been a short time in the colony, provided their passages were paid. I have ascertained also that there is a female foundling institution at Macao, under charge of some Catholic missionaries, from which a number of young girls might readily be obtained, and that the Catholic missionaries would give their assistance to promote my views.

(signed) *J. T. W.*

PROPOSED Letter to accompany Instructions.

Sir,

I HAVE already furnished you with general instructions as to the management of the Chinese emigrants entrusted to your care for conveyance to the British colony of

These instructions might have been extended to a much greater length, but would perhaps fetter your judgment, if the details should be too rigidly adhered to, without sufficient regard to peculiar circumstances as they arise.

The health, comfort and welfare of the emigrants, during the voyage, depend almost entirely upon you. I trust, therefore, that you will on every occasion use firmness, tempered with judgment and discretion in their management, (having always reference to the peculiar character and habits of the Chinese) and that you will treat them with kindness and consideration.

The British Colonial Government in the West Indies are anxious that the emigration now set on foot from China should be successfully carried out, and with the view to promote this object and to insure attention to the emigrants on the voyage have authorized the payment of certain gratuities to yourself and officers upon your arrival in the West Indies.

The conditions upon which the gratuities will be paid to yourself and officers are:

1. That the terms of the charter-party, so far as you are concerned, and also the instructions with which you have been furnished, have been fully and fairly complied with.

2. That the emigrants have landed in good health and condition, and have no well-founded cause of complaint.

3. That no unusual mortality has taken place on board.

BRITISH GUIANA.

The payment to your officers will depend upon your report of their conduct.
Your own gratuity will be at the rate of 20 *l.* sterling for every 100 emigrants.
For the first officer, at the rate of 8 *l.* sterling.
For the second officer, at the rate of 4 *l.* sterling. A separate arrangement is made for the surgeon, as stated in his instructions.

(No. 1.)

EMIGRATION of Contract Labourers to *Cuba* from 1847 to date.

Date.	Colours.	Ships' Names.	Where from.	Number.	Mortality.	——
1847:						
January -	Spanish -	Oquendo - -	Amoy -	220	12	
March -	English -	Duke of Argyll -	- ditto -	420	38	- - Ten washed overboard in a gale.
1852:						
August -	- ditto -	British Sovereign -	- ditto -	313	—	
September	- ditto -	Panama - -	- ditto -	349	—	
October -	- ditto -	Gertrude - -	- ditto -	350	—	
Ditto -	- ditto -	Blenheim - -	- ditto -	453	—	
November	- ditto -	Inchinnan - -	Namoa -	355	—	
December	- ditto -	Lady Amherst -	Amoy -	275	—	
Ditto -	- ditto -	Sir T. Gresham -	Namoa -	347	—	
1853:						
January -	Spanish -	Julian d'Unzueta -	- ditto -	350	—	
Ditto -	English -	Columbus - -	Amoy -	300	—	
February -	Spanish -	Bella Gallega -	Namoa -	390	—	
Ditto -	- ditto -	San Andres - -	- ditto -	383	—	

(No. 2.)

EMIGRATION of Contract Labourers to *Sydney* from 1848 to date.

Date.	Colours.	Ships' Names.	Where from.	Number.	Mortality.	——
1848:						
July -	English -	Nimrod - -	Amoy -	120	none.	
1849 -	- ditto -	Cadet - - -	- ditto -	150	—	
1850:						
March -	- ditto -	Gazelle - -	- ditto -	134	3	
November	- ditto -	Duke of Roxburgh	- ditto -	272	16	
1851:						
August -	- ditto -	- ditto - -	- ditto -	240	—	
September	- ditto -	Ganges - -	- ditto -	224	13	
Ditto -	- ditto -	Arabia - -	- ditto -	196	10	
October -	- ditto -	General Palmer -	- ditto -	335	70	- - Nearly all from dysentery in Bally Straits.
November	- ditto -	Statesman - -	- ditto -	180	none.	
December	- ditto -	Amazon - -	- ditto -	303	13	- - Three jumped overboard because they had no opium.
1852:						
January -	- ditto -	Eleanor Lancaster	- ditto -	240	10	
Ditto -	- ditto -	Spartan - -	- ditto -	250	10	
November	- ditto -	Eleanor Lancaster	Namoa -	260	—	- - Nearly all from dysentery in Sunda Straits.
Ditto -	- ditto -	Royal Saxon -	Amoy -	227	—	
1853:						
January -	- ditto -	Spartan - -	- ditto -	254	—	

BRITISH GUIANA.

(No. 3.)

EMIGRATION of Contract Labourers to *Honolulu, Peru,* and *British Guiana.*

Dates.	Colours.	Ships' Names.	Where from.	Number.	Mortality.	——
			HONOLULU.			
1851: November	English -	Thetis - - -	Amoy -	199	7	All from cholera.
1852: November	- ditto -	- ditto - -	- ditto -	101	none.	
			TO PERU.			
1852: July -	Peruvian	Empresa - -	Amoy -	404	70	- - Nearly all from dysentery.
1853: March -	English -	Nepaul - -	Namoa -	500	—	
			TO BRITISH GUIANA.			
1852: July -	- ditto -	Lord Elgin - -	Amoy -	155	—	
September	- ditto -	Glentanner - -	- ditto -	303	—	
November	- ditto -	Samuel Boddington	- ditto -	352	—	
December	- ditto -	Australia - -	Namoa -	445	—	

To Captain
Commanding

— No. 17. —

(No. 82.)

No. 17.
Duke of Newcastle to Lieut.-Governor Walker.
13 July 1853.
2 July 1853.

COPY of a DESPATCH from his Grace the Duke of *Newcastle* to Lieutenant Governor *Walker.*

Sir, Downing-street, 13 July 1853.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 29th ultimo, No. 77, I transmit to you herewith a copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, respecting the disposal of certain immigrants' clothing which Mr. White had shipped from China, and I have to instruct you to retain the whole of this clothing, as recommended by the Commissioners, instead of transferring a portion to Trinidad, as they had orginally suggested in their letter of the 15th June.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Newcastle.*

Enclosure in No. 17.

Encl. in No. 17.

Colonial Land and Emigration Office,
2 July 1853.

Sir,

IN our letter of the 15th ultimo, enclosing copies of letters which we had received from Mr. White, the emigration agent at Hong Kong, we noticed that Mr. White had shipped for Demerara, by the "Emigrant," 1,000 suits of clothing, which he had purchased for the emigrants by the "Martin Luther" and another ship which he expected to be able to despatch to British Guiana during the season. Mr. White proposed that half of this clothing should be retained in Demerara, and half sent on to Trinidad; possibly in hopes that it might be available for return coolies or others for whom the Governor was bound to provide.

2. But on further considering this question, it appears to us that as both the ships for which this clothing was purchased were to be sent to British Guiana (the Trinidad emigration being fully provided for by the ships of Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co.), no part of the loss incurred by the purchase could with any fairness be transferred to Trinidad; and it is also to be remembered, first, that some of this loss will be recovered by the colony of British Guiana from the owners of the "Martin Luther," by whose default it, in part, occurred; whereas

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whereas no such resource will be open to Trinidad; and next, that the arrival of this quantity of clothing will be singularly inopportune in the latter colony, to which this Board has been recently authorized to ship upwards of 500 suits of clothing.

3. We would suggest, therefore, that the Governor of British Guiana should be instructed to retain the whole of the clothing despatched by Mr. White; there being, in fact, no ground on which any part of it could be properly transferred to Trinidad.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

— No. 18. —

No. 18.
Duke of Newcastle to Lieut.-Governor Walker.
16 August 1853.

(No. 96.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from his Grace the Duke of *Newcastle* to Lieutenant Governor *Walker*.

Sir, Downing-street, 16 August 1853.

8 August 1853.
9 August 1853.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, copies of two letters from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, reporting that they had been unable to obtain shipping at a cost not exceeding 100 dollars, for the conveyance of Chinese emigrants to Jamaica and British Guiana.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Newcastle.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 18.

Colonial Land and Emigration Office,
8 August 1853.

Encl. 1, in No. 18.

Sir,

1. WE have the honour to state, that on Wednesday last we received tenders for the conveyance of 1,800 Chinese emigrants to Jamaica and British Guiana, but have found ourselves unable to engage any ships. A considerable number of tenders were sent in, but, with the exception of two small ships, the lowest offer was at the rate of 18 *l.* 10 *s.*, and the rest ranged from that sum to 25 *l.* As, however, the cost of collection and embarkation (exclusive of the salaries of the emigration agent, interpreters, cooks, and headmen) is estimated by Mr. White at $10. 59 *c.*, which at the rates of exchange prevalent in Hong Kong is somewhat more than 2 *l.* 10 *s.*, it is obvious that none of these tenders could have been accepted without raising the total cost considerably above the limit of $100, which has been laid down by the colonists of British Guiana.

2. We of course accepted the two cheapest tenders, which were at the exceptionally low rates of 14 *l.* and 14 *l.* 17 *s.* 6 *d.*; but it subsequently appeared that one of the ships tendered was not fit for the service, and that the calculations on which they had been tendered had been based on a wrong form, which had been obtained from one of our officers. We did not think that we could with propriety take advantage of an evident blunder, of which we had been so promptly informed, and we consequently consented to put an end to the engagement.

3. We advertised, however, immediately for fresh tenders, to be sent in on Tuesday next.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

Enclosure 2, in No. 18.

Colonial Land and Emigration Office,
9 August 1853.

Encl. 2, in No. 18.

Sir,

1. WITH reference to our letter of yesterday's date, we have to state that we this morning received tenders for the conveyance of Chinese to the West Indies.

2. The lowest offer was of a small ship at the rate of 16 *l.* 19 *s.* per adult for Jamaica, or 17 *l.* 9 *s.* for British Guiana; the next was at 17 *l.* 17 *s.*; the remainder were from 18 *l.* 19 *s.* 9 *d.* to 21 *l.* 17 *s.* As the expenses of collection, clothing, and agency may be estimated at little short of 4 *l.*, it was evident that none of these tenders would have enabled us to despatch emigrants under the rate of $100, which is fixed by the Court of Policy at British Guiana.

3. We therefore thought it best not to accept any of these tenders.

We have, &c.
(signed) *T. W. C. Murdoch.*
Frederic Rogers.

Herman Merivale, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

TRINIDAD.

Despatches from Governor Lord Harris.

— No. 1. —

(No. 26.)

No. 1. Governor Lord Harris to the Duke of Newcastle. 10 March 1853.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lord *Harris* to his Grace the Duke of *Newcastle.*

Trinidad, 10 March 1853.
(Received 4 April 1853.)

My Lord Duke,

I HAVE the honour to report the arrival of the ship "Australia," with 432 Chinese immigrants on board.

I enclose the acting agent general of immigrants returns and report, and also the health officer's report.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Harris.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 1.

Encl. 1, in No. 1.

Trinidad, Port of Spain,
10 March 1853.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that, the ship "Australia," 1,170 tons burthen, anchored here on Friday the 4th instant, 78 days from Namoa, with 434 Chinese immigrants on board, 11 of the number having died during the passage.

These people were classified on the 6th instant, and distributed on the 7th and 8th, during which two days more of the number died; eight had been previously sent to hospital.

The distribution took place in the usual mode, they were allowed to arrange themselves into groupes of from 17 to 34, according to their own inclination, whether arising from relationship or previous intimacy. They left the ship in good humour and on friendly terms with all on board.

The "Australia" brought no interpreter, but this serious inconvenience was remedied in a great measure by the attention of Captain Brown of the "Benares," who sent up his carpenter, a China man, through whom the people were told the nature of the contracts into which they had entered, and the work they were expected to undertake; they have been all employed in agriculture, and the majority of them in that connected with cane cultivation.

They are good natured, but apparently rather stubborn.

Their muscular development is more prominent than that of any set of immigrants I have yet seen, whether European or Asiatic, and their condition so high, that out of 424 assigned, there were only two (convalescents) who appeared unfit to undertake at once laborious work.

The indications, mental and physical, of the men, reflects, at the present period particularly, high credit on the discipline, treatment of the captain surgeon and subordinates.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Henry Mitchell,*
Actg. Agent General
of Immigrants.

The Hon. James L. Wildman,
Colonial Secretary,
&c., &c., &c.

TRINIDAD.

Enclosure 2, in No 1.

Port of Spain, 10 March 1853.

REPORT on the Immigrants, by the Ship "Australia", which arrived at the port of *Spain* from *Namoa*, on the 4th March 1853.

Encl. 2, in No. 1.

Name of the master	John Noble.
Name of the surgeon	Henry John Bland.
Date of departure	December 15th, 1852.
Number of days on the voyage	78 days.
Registered tonnage	1,170 tons.
Superficies of passengers' deck	—
Number of statute adults admissible	—
Number of such adults actually on board	432.
Number of crew	31 men.
Port at which vessel touched	None.
Date of touching	—
Days there	—
If placed in quarantine, state the cause	—

Emigrants Embarked.					Births on the Voyage.		Deaths on the Voyage.				Emigrants Landed.				
Adults.		Children under 14.		TOTAL.	M.	F.	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children under 14.		TOTAL.
M.	F.	M.	F.				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
445	- -	None		445	None		13	- -	None		432	- -	None		432

The Chinese labourers landed from ship "Australia" were, with exception of eight, sent to hospital, and two convalescents; a most powerful set of men and in high order.

For Henry Mitchell,
Acting Government Immigration-Agent,

(signed) *James Wildron*,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Enclosure 3, in No. 1

Sir, Port of Spain, 4 March 1853.

Encl. 1, in No. 3. I HAVE the honour to report for his Excellency the Governor's information that I have officially visited the immigrant ship "Australia," direct from Amoy in China, 78 days out.

This ship received on board 450 Chinese immigrants, of which number 10 have died on the passage, and one committed suicide by drowning himself. The diseases which proved the cause of mortality, were inflammation of the lungs, affections of the bowels and heart, and in one case cerebral affection.

The vicissitudes of temperature are reported to have affected these people a good deal.

On inspection I find them almost all healthy and robust, apparently well adapted for agricultural labour; six only are reported as requiring to go to hospital.

The

The accommodations of the ship are good, with the exception of deficient aeration between decks. Additional ventilating tubes and side ports are wanting. Nevertheless, the comparatively small mortality among the immigrants, and their present satisfactory condition, I consider to be creditable to the officers of the ship.

I have, &c.

The Hon. James L. Wildman,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

(signed) *Thos. Anderson*, M.D.,
Inspector of Health of Shipping.

— No. 2. —

(No. 30.)

No. 2.
Governor Lord Harris to the Duke of Newcastle.
22 March 1853.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lord *Harris* to his Grace the Duke of *Newcastle.*

Trinidad, 22 March 1853.
(Received, 23 April 1853.

My Lord Duke,

I HAVE the honour to forward for your approval an ordinance, entitled an Ordinance * "for the better Government of Chinese immigrants introduced at the public expense."

* See Appendix, p. 187.

It was deemed advisable to pass this ordinance, inasmuch as the conditions of the contracts which were entered into with the Chinese immigrants lately arrived in this colony did not altogether agree with the terms specified in the General Immigration Ordinance.

The principle adopted is very similar to that embodied in the above-mentioned ordinance, there being only some few alterations in detail, which will facilitate the working of the law, and which are fully in accordance with the contract made by the Chinese to work under the directions of the agent general of immigrants for five years.

I now wish to draw your Grace's attention to one or two circumstances respecting the arrangements which have been entered into respecting these people.

1. I should notice the contract, of which I forward a copy, which you will see is made for immigrants going to British Guiana, and which, though altered in one place is left incorrect in another.

2. I would call your attention to a copy of a statement of Captain Noble, the master of the vessel which conveyed these immigrants to this island.

By this it appears that they might be brought here for 12 *l.*, or at most 13 *l.*, whereas the contract made with Messrs. Hyde & Hodge amounts to 100 dollars.

Now Messrs. Hyde & Hodge may be very respectable persons, and it may be very obtuse in me not to see the advantage of making them so handsome a present, but whether it be so or not, I would most seriously represent to your Grace, for the sake of any measures you may yourself adopt in respect to this immigration, that this colony is not in a position to throw away 7,000 *l.* or 8,000 *l.* (which would be the case if the 1,000 Chinese expected, are brought on the same terms) for nothing, or for a purpose which its own paid agent could do equally well.

For I should observe that this vessel was not sent out from England, but was taken up in China.

Again, the system which, by Captain Noble's account, is carried on whilst shipping the Chinamen, would appear to require very considerable improvement.

Advances, varying from 9 to 12 dollars per head, have been made by the agent of Messrs. Hyde & Hodge, at Amoy, to each immigrant, which sums are to be re-

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paid by a reduction from their wages; but it appears very doubtful whether they understand the nature of the advance, more especially as they were plundered of the whole of it before leaving China.

This gives me considerable cause for anxiety, and may originate difficulties which may be troublesome to overcome.

I am, moreover, placed in a very great difficulty, as no interpreters were brought by the vessel, so that we are positively without any means of communication with the Chinamen.

I cannot but regret to have to call your attention to these points, which show an utter want of organization in China, for the purposes of emigration there, which I should have thought, after the experience gained in Indian emigration, might have been easily arranged.

The planters are highly pleased with the Chinamen, and universally consider them far superior to any labourers they have ever received, and it will be most unfortunate if any discontent should arise from circumstances over which we in this colony had no control.

Captain Noble, in another statement made by him, says, "The different articles of clothing, furnished in retail, such as caps, jackets, trowsers, &c., cost 20 to 25 cents; and in wholesale for a large number the equipment of each person would not amount to more than one dollar."

The food, consisting principally of coarse rice, is sold at a very moderate rate, and for a large shipment, would not cost, including clothes, more than 1 *l.* sterling per head.

Messrs. Tait received 2 *l.* sterling head money, and paid the coolie brokers one dollar a head.

These coolie brokers accompained the labourers to the ship, and when the latter got their bounty, relieved them of it to such an extent, that I do not believe that more than 5 per cent. of the immigrants retained a single dollar.

The only article they appear to have received in return was from 50 to 100 oranges each.

The English Consul refused to sign the ship's papers because he had no authority to do so from his own Government; the refusal was unconnected with any immigration agency.

I have, &c.

Enclosure 1, in No. 2.

(No. 18.)

I, DEE TSING, native of the village of Set Tin, in the province of Fokien, in China, of the age of 19 years, have agreed to embark in the vessel "Australia," with the object of proceeding to the colony of British Guiana, obliging myself from and after my arrival to dedicate myself there to the orders of the Honourable the immigration agent of that colony, to whatever class of labour I may be destined, whether in plantations or other estates, during the customary hours of work in that colony, or even at other than plantation labour, as may be most convenient to the Honourable the emigration agent, or whoever may become the holder of this engagement; and to perform said work for four dollars of salary monthly, maintenance of eight ounces of beef, 1½ lbs. of other alimentary food daily, medical assistance and medicines, two suits of clothes, one blanket, and one flannel shirt annually, it being agreed that in case of sickness, should it exceed 15 days, my salary will be suspended until I return to work, continuing in the meanwhile to receive medicines and medical attendance; or in place of all the foregoing, that I shall receive six dollars per month, and find myself in all provisions and other necessaries, fulfilling these obligations for the space of five years continuous, which are fixed for the term of this engagement, during which it shall not be permitted me to leave the colony, nor deny my services to the persons to whom this engagement may be transferred; at the end of that period I shall be at liberty to act as may seem to me best. My passage and maintenance on board of said vessel shall be on account of Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co., from whom I confess having received, by Messrs. Tait & Co., the sum of 9½ dollars in silver for my outfit for said voyage, and also two suits of new clothes with which to land, amounting to two dollars, on condition that both sums, 11½ dollars, I shall pay in Trinidad to the order of Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co. by one dollar monthly, which shall be deducted from my salary by the Honourable the immigration agent, or the persons to whom this engagement may be transferred, it being understood that on no other plea whatever shall anything be deducted from my wages; and in faith of fulfilling punctually this said obligation, I signed in Nanwa, this the 10th day of December 1852.

Encl. 1, in No. 2.

It is understood that the salary agreed shall commence to run from within 24 hours after landing at Trinidad, unless both parties agree to cancel this agreement after arrival there.

立約人李向 原貫屬潮陽省 府 縣 邑 行年 如今相訂欲搭 船往英吉利歪阿那埠到埠後自願聽從該地尊總管來客者使喚無論何等工夫所定與吾行者或耕作或他事業皆當操作時候悉照該埠常規至或工夫更不只乎耕種者總總悉聽尊總管或別執照人所命工艮每月四元每日牛肉半磅另別樣所須食物壹磅半又每年給以小絨汗衫一件洋氈一張衣服二套並醫藥之助如若有病逾半月者工銀亦暫停止待至病愈復能作工始算工錢然當病際醫藥猶時施給如不依上所議則每月惟受工艮二元其供應食用悉自辦理如約內所云僱工五年五年內不准擅離該埠亦不得不聽執照者之命期滿後即聽從自便而行至於渡費與及船上食物等項均是入 之數從 手吾亦曾收銀拾元以備船上雜費之用另新衣服二套以為抵岸之須其衣該艮十元合共艮廿大員俱係 代 所支此銀承 之命將在呢麻拉地給還即托該地總管來客者或別執照人將工艮逐月扣回一員以償其數現下言明將來不得另尋他故將工艮扣除恐口無憑立此為據

咸豐二年十一月 日立約人 的筆

再者目下約明工艮到埠後一日夜方始起計若二家情願到埠將此紙另行册改亦可

Enclosure 2, in No. 2.

Encl. 2, in No. 2.

OWNERS of the ship "Australia," Messrs. Charles Moore & Co., No. 9, Rumford-place, Liverpool, receive for each immigrant landed alive 10*l.* sterling, the ship finding water and fuel only.

My opinion is, that those men can be brought to this island, including all expenses, for 12*l.* per head, as I should suppose that an average passage for such vessels as are now in our employ, should not exceed, under any ordinary circumstances, 80 days from China.

The bounty received by each Chinaman previous to embarking, viz., $. 9. 50 was invariably taken from them by the coolie brokers who engaged them. This wholesale robbery greatly enhances the probability of mutiny on board the vessels taking them.

Trinidad. (signed) *John Noble*, Commander
Ship "Australia."

— No. 3. —

(No. 47.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lord *Harris* to his Grace the Duke of *Newcastle.*

No. 3. Governor Lord Harris to the Duke of Newcastle. 22 April 1853.

Trinidad, 22 April 1853.
(Received 19 May 1853.)

My Lord Duke,

I HAVE the honour herewith to forward to you a report, which I directed the agent general of immigrants to compile for the purpose of forwarding, as it appeared probable that you would be desirous of possessing early information of the state and condition of the Chinese who have arrived in this colony.

I have, &c.,
(signed) *Harris.*

Enclosure in No. 3.

Encl. 1, in No. 3.

Immigration Office,
14 April 1853.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to state, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that on Tuesday the 12th instant, Mr. Aynsley, agent of the firm of Messrs. Miles & Kington, called at this office, and reported that the Chinese immigrants located on the Cavoni estates had refused to receive their monthly pay of three round dollars, as per agreement signed at Namoa; they insisted on receiving four round dollars, and alleged that their countrymen on other estates had received the same sum. Taking the two interpreters, I accompanied Mr. Aynsley to the estates in question. We called first at Barataria, and there ascertained that the people had been paid four dollars each. On their agreements being explained, they immediately went to their rooms and brought back the dollar for the monthly repayment of the advance at Namoa. They did so with complete goodwill. On the Cavoni estates, after a similar explanation, four dollars were handed to each man, he retained three, and gave one to me. Notwithstanding the interpreter telling them the sick people would be paid in their own houses, they (the sick) came up either alone, or assisted by their friends, to the manager's dwelling to be paid, an imprudence which may cost some of them their lives. On the Curepe the people had been paid four dollars each; they asserted that the money being already spent, they could not repay at the moment, but would do so next pay day.

Yesterday I visited with the interpreters the two remaining estates in this district on which Chinese were located; they had been already paid at the rate of three dollars per month. A marked improvement had taken place in the amount of labour performed since the first visit which I had the honour to report.

On the Orange Grove every man but two had finished this task on Tuesday.

Sickness still continues to a considerable extent, and the labour of the new immigrant cannot be rated on an average at less than 1*s.* 3*d.* per task. They are fond of good living, and many purchased poultry with their money.

The prevailing sickness is, I apprehend, not altogether due to the accident of their being new-comers, as on inquiry I found that the average of serious attacks amongst the native peasantry and coolies had been greater than for many previous months. I have not yet been able to visit the Camden estate in Conoa, to which a lot of Chinese were assigned, but I have this day learned from the house of Messrs. Hume, Bernard & Co., the town agent, that, with the exception of sickness to a considerable extent, they are doing well.

With regard to Cedros, the remaining locality, where two large lots have been assigned, I have much pleasure in annexing the following copy of the warden's report.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Henry Mitchell,*
Acting Agent-General of Immigrants.

The Hon. James S. Wildman,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

TRINIDAD.

Sir, St. Marie Estate, 11 April 1853.

KNOWING your anxiety regarding the Chinese immigrants, I beg to state that they are superior to any immigrants I have yet had under my charge; they are more intelligent and tractable than the African, and cleanlier, healthier, and stronger than the coolie.

They are also giving Mr. Watson, at St. John's, satisfaction.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Andrew Wyllie,*
Warden.

Henry Mitchell, Esq.,
Acting Agent-General of Immigrants.

Sir, Craignish Estate, 16 April 1853.

I AM in receipt of your note of the 15th instant, regarding a return of my Chinese immigrants. I received 23, numbered as follows: 50, 265, 43, 132, 255, 134, 242, 4, 237, 356, 269, 46, 132, 244, 153, 223, 122, 27, 28, 35, 446, 38, 397. These people are now all in good health. Two days after they arrived on the estate I put them out to gang-work, to weed young canes, at which they continued, under the superintendence of an overlooker, for three weeks; during that time one was employed cooking for the others, and one was off duty for 10 days from a cut on the sole of the foot, and another two days from having been stung by a scorpion. At the end of the three weeks I tried them with task-work, but as I was not so much satisfied with their work in that way, I again put them into gang-work. As I have kept no exact account of the cost of the blankets, clothing, and provisions I have given them, I cannot inform of the cost of a task or day's work, but from a calculation I have made I think their labour cost me about 60 cents per day. I am, however, decidedly of opinion that they will shortly be very much reduced; and as to their general capacity, I must say, that during upwards of 30 years' experience as a practical planter in this island, I never saw people more willing to do their work than these men, and if they continue as they are now doing, I have no doubt but they will be the best immigrant labourers we have ever had in Trinidad.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Colin Campbell.*

Henry Mitchell, Esq.,
Acting Agent-General of Immigrants.

Sir, Immigration Office, 20 April 1853.

I HAVE further the honour to report that since the preceding statement was written, I visited the Camden estate, on which 25 Chinese are located; as will be perceived by the proprietor's return, their behaviour and work was of a sufficiently promising nature.

In the Napaima's, where the prevalence of much sickness existed 10 days previously, I have to report complete convalescence; with few exceptions nearly all are at work; this was particularly the case at William's Ville and Garth. There was only one estate on which there was an evident determination not to work, named the Friendship. A fight had taken place on the previous day (Sunday), between the creoles and Chinese, in which two of the latter and one of the former were wounded on the head, with sticks. It was evidently a drunken affray, but after a careful investigation of several hours before three justices, the evidence was so little reliable, as to necessitate the leaving the matter to the judgment of the stipendiary justice at his visit on the ensuing Friday. It appeared to me that there was a misunderstanding between the superintendent and the new labourers, but as we could not ascertain its nature, I advised Mr. Begg, the proprietor, before proceeding to extreme measures, to shift the people and give them a trial on the William's Ville, one of his other estates in the neighbourhood, where a set of Chinese were working well, as per following report:—

Extract of Report on Chinese, from *John Harris*, Esq., William's Ville Estate.

Sir, 16 April 1853.

I am in receipt of your communication respecting the Chinese, and in reply, beg to state that as immigrants they are in a fair position, and stand in about the same ratio as the coolies.

I have not the least doubt in my own mind that they will prove equally valuable; they are at present more expensive, but with judicious management that will be soon got over. On this property they have been sickly for some time, but now all are at work save two, one of whom was hurt accidentally.

The deaths on this estate since 1845, have been four coolies in 1846 and in 1847; there have been none since.

I have, &c.
(signed) *John Harris.*

It is to be remarked regarding this estate that the total number of emigrants received since 1846 to date, has been 250; of these many who propose returning shortly to Calcutta, have been six years on the estate, have been regularly industrious, and for the most part are sufficiently wealthy to retire to India with a competency.

Mr.

TRINIDAD.

Mr. Roston, of Camden, Caraccas and Susannah estates, writes as follows :—

My dear Sir,

The following statement is the expense of one month's labour of the 25 Chinese immigrants allotted to me :—

	$.	c.
Cash paid for one month's wages	4	—
50 lbs. of rice	2	—
Fish and pork	—	60
Medical attendance	—	33
One blanket		52
Proportion of Government bounty		80
$.	8	26

I had for these $8. 22 c. an average of 22 days' work from each, which makes an average for one day's labour 37½ c. With regard to their conduct, health, &c. I beg leave to report,

That they are a set of very good, obedient and hard-working labourers. That during the whole month there were only two of them sick; one is asthmatic and incurable; the other was a case of sore throat, with fever, now recovered.

Not one has had even a chigoe.

That they appear to be well contented, and are as pleased with me as I am with them.

That the only difficulty I have is the want of an interpreter, and I am of opinion that as soon as I can make myself understood by them they will be as good, if not better, than the coolies, and that I have a most sanguine hope of their being in a very short time the best lot of labourers we have in Trinidad. I also take the liberty to state that during the three years I have resided on this estate the average number of coolies I had in my employment was 48, sometimes more, sometimes less; and that during the said three years there was not a single death among them. Creoles was 11.

That on the two upper estates, Susannah and Caracas, during the same period there were no deaths; the number of coolies on the two estates being 80 to 90.

I have, &c.

The Hon. James S. Wildman, Acting Agent-General. (signed) *T. Rostant.*

On the Orange Grove estate, where as has been already stated, they give satisfaction, the total expense of 25 for the first month was $. 185. 55 c.; 7 $. 50 c. per head.

The following is a communication of an earlier date from Mr. James Taylor, of Broomage estate:

Dear Sir, Broomage Estate, 26 March 1853.

I duly received your much esteemed communication, regarding the then expected Chinese immigrants, and before I had an opportunity of replying, I had the satisfaction of receiving the allotment of these people sent to this estate.

To your observation, and to the remarks quoted in the Port of Spain Gazette, I gave it full consideration, and you may rest assured that as far as in me lies I will cordially co-operate in trying to render Chinese immigrants successful. I fully concur with you in thinking that their introduction into this colony is likely to tend more to its stable prosperity than anything that has hitherto occurred.

From the short experience I have had of these people I like them exceedingly, and I have very little hesitation in predicting that in a short time they will be the most efficient labourers we have. They appear to have the strength to do all kinds of work required of them, and at present they exhibit a ready will to try anything they are told to do; they jump at the first call, and the merry noisy way in which they tumble out to their work reminds me of the "scaling" of a school. It is a pity that there is no interpreter to visit the estate occasionally, yet, I think, they will soon be able to make themselves understood; not being clogged with the trammels of caste they mix more freely than the coolies with the creoles, who say of them they are not so "cornful" as the coolies. I have tried them at most kind of work and they gave me every satisfaction; this week I gave them tasks, 70 feet square to weed, they all finished, and some of them by noon. I have been expecting to see you here for some time. I wished to make application to you for 25 more, either Chinese or coolies, but I would much prefer the former. I have joined Mr. Lambie in the Buen Intento estate, and wished them for that property; if you can give me an allotment every care shall be taken of them; they will be solely under my own control, as I intend to manage the estate myself for the wet season.

I am, &c.

Henry Mitchell, Esq., Acting Agent-general of Immigrants. (signed) *J. Taylor.*

Should the remaining returns be sent in before the packet sails their substance will be annexed to this report. The general conduct of the indented coolies gives satisfaction. During the last three months no complaint worthy of notice has been made by either

TRINIDAD. employer or labourer, and of the latter whose time has expired and are anxious for a return passage few leave the estates mentioned in their certificates.

The coolies who arrived this year are also working well, and the amounts due for premium on each lot have been paid up, with the exception of one sent to Harmony Hall and a gang of Chinamen to Macoya.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Hy. Mitchell,*
Acting Agent-general of Immigrants.

The Hon. J. S. Wildman,
Acting Agent-general.

Sir, Broomage Estate, 20 April 1853.

In compliance with your request in your note of 15th instant, I here furnish you with a reply to the queries regarding the Chinese immigrants allotted to this estate :

1. I received 23 coolies, all in good health but one, who has not yet worked, but is now convalescent; they were all afflicted with a sort of itch during the first month; a little medical treatment, assisted by their own habits of personal cleanliness, soon got rid of it; they are now all in good health and excellent spirits.

2. I kept no regular account of their work during the first month, but every one (save the sick ones, and there was very little sickness amongst them) worked every working day; they did a good day's work; they took pains to do their work well, and they work with such a cheerful willingness as cannot but give great satisfaction to employers generally.

3. One man (who came sick upon the estate) has not yet worked; another was laid up for more than the half of the month.

4. The money wages and allowances of food will amount to more than 30 cents per head daily (day's work), and besides I furnished them each with a blanket, a tin pan, a pot, a hat, knives, forks, and spoons, a hoe, cutlass, medical attendance, and a nurse; also duty on assignments, all this put together will make their labour very expensive for the first month; but if at the expiration of three months they are to be put on a footing with the other labourers, not only will we be indemnified by having so effective a supply of continuous labour, but the people themselves will be more industrious and comfortable; as for two tasks they will get double wages, and they will have their own gardens, pigs, poultry, &c.

There have been no deaths amongst the Chinese immigrants on this estate, and for upwards of four years there has not been a death on this estate amongst the coolies.

If the very objectionable condition of the Chinese agreements, that they are to receive pay as well as be fed when sick, were done away with, and if they were put on the same footing as other new immigrants, I would greatly prefer them to any labourers we have.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. Taylor.*

Macoya Return.

Nineteen Chinese, for the month ending 10th April, cost 199 dollars, or $. 10. 40. each. The monthly rate on this estate is high, from the circumstances of one having died, and the remainder having lost 153 days by sicknsss.

Their daily work averages 15 cents.

Sir, Garth Estate, 19 April 1853.

I am in receipt of your letter of the 17th instant, and in reply beg to inform you that I received on the 10th March 24 Chinese labourers, of these two have died. The quantity of days' work and tasks from the whole amount to 572, which, at a total expense of 163 dollars for sick inclusive, gives an average of a little over 30 cents per day. I am of opinion that the climate had nothing to do with their sickness on arrival here. Sea scurvy broke out on many, as well as sore legs. The two deaths were from dysentery and fever, which, I may remark, were generally prevalent among the Creoles on the estate at the same period; 17 of the Chinese were seriously indisposed. As a labouring class they are, in my opinion, equal to any introduced into the colony. The principal difficulty was that regarding the language.

In reply to your last quæry, as to how many coolies I have received on Garth estate, and how many have died, I have to state as follows: on the 28th February 1846, 25 coolies; on the 5th May 1846, 25 coolies; one of the last died within 10 days after arrival, of dysentery; on the 19th June 1847, 27 Madras coolies, who all ran away as soon as the coolie ordinance was disallowed at home—(*Mem.* I never got back my 54 *l.* sterling from Government House); on the 13th March 1852, 15 coolies, who are all alive; and on the 5th June 1852, 10 coolies, one of whom came in a dying state, and only survived 10 days.

I have had many coolies from other estates, but the deaths abovementioned are all that occurred here, namely, two coolies and two Chinese.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Wm. Taylor.*

Henry Mitchell, Esq.,
Acting Agent-general of Immigrants.

22 April 1853.—I have further received a verbal report from the manager of the Jordan Hill Estate, on which one of the largest Chinese gangs is located. The people, though somewhat expensive, are giving full satisfaction, being both intelligent and willing; they, like nearly all the rest, have laid out most of their month's pay in poultry, pigs, and clothing—tastes which will tend fully as much to the general welfare of the colony as to their own comfort, and are likely to prove their best chance of escape from rum drinking, for which they show a rather stronger predilection than might have been predicated from tea-drinkers.

(signed) *H. M.*

— No. 4. —

(No. 59.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lord *Harris* to his Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*.

No. 4.
Governor Lord Harris to the Duke of Newcastle.
7 May 1853.

Trinidad, 7 May 1853.
(Received 31 May 1853.)

My Lord Duke,

I HAVE the honour to report the arrival here of the ship "Clarendon," on the 23d of last month with 251 Chinesemefi.

I enclose the reports of the health officer and of the agent general of immigrants.

I send also a copy of one of the agreements which had been entered into with these men.

There are two points in these agreements which I wish to bring to your Grace's notice, as they both tend greatly to diminish the advantage of this immigration.

The first is, that these people are allowed to remain 13 days in the hospital at a time, and not lose their pay, so that a man may secure the whole of his month's wages by working only three days, and by remaining in hospital the rest of the time.

The second is of greater importance, and the untoward consequences of the arrangement are not to be got over. It is, that by the contract an engagement is made to pay five dollars a month to these people.

By this Act I have been placed in a most awkward predicament, and was at one time at a loss to know what I should do with the cargo, for the planters at first declined to take them at a higher rate than those which had previously arrived, who receive four dollars, and the Chinese stoutly refused to take less than had been agreed on. A number of the agents and proprietors of estates came forward with great spirit and divided the cargo amongst them, whether they needed them or not, and relieved me of the difficulty.

I do not know who may have been the actual author of this very careless arrangement. So far as I can gather it appears to have been left to the discretion of some agent at two or three removes of Messrs. Hyde & Hodge, who commissioned the captain of the vessel to make the bargain, and that the rate might have been even higher, had he pleased to raise it.

He appears at all events to have been quite unconscious of one very necessary element of the labour question, which is, that there should not only be a supply but that the rate of payment should be such as will afford a prospect of remuneration to the employer, and which will not upset the arrangements already entered into with the rest of the population.

There is at present not only the probability that all the Chinamen who had previously arrived will be dissatisfied unless they receive the same rate of wages, but that discontent will be aroused amongst the rest of the population, Indians, Africans and creoles.

The difficulty is aggravated in consequence of the non-arrival of vessels to take the coolies whose term of five years has expired, so that there exists a larger number of immigrants than was expected at the time when the calculations for the necessary supply for this year was made.

It is very disagreeable to me to feel it my duty so frequently to point out defects in the manner in which the immigration to this colony is conducted, and I am aware how easy it is for those inexperienced in the difficulties of any particular case to find fault; at the same time it is a cause of great disappointment to me, after having been toiling at this business for six and a half

TRINIDAD.

years, and after having accomplished a successful result, for it was working admirably, and as smoothly as a well-kept engine, with both proprietors and labourers satisfied and contented, to see its stability risked by such careless treatment.

I am, however, not unprepared with a remedy, for I feel certain that the immigration to this island could be carried on without a difficulty by merely the two present loan agents, and an agent in London, and one agent in India, and another in China.

I may add, that the additional dollar granted to this batch of Chinamen, will be an increase of expense to the planters of 13,000 *l.*, supposing, which will probably be the case, that the wages of the whole body will have to be raised; a fact which at once shows the necessity for caution in arrangements of this nature.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Harris.*

Enclosure 1, in No. 4.

Encl. 1, in No. 4.

Port of Spain, 30 April 1853.

REPORT on the Immigrants by the Ship "Clarendon," which arrived at *Trinidad* from *Whampoa* on the 23d April 1853.

Name of the Master	George Bilton.
Name of the Surgeon	Edward Patrel.
Date of Departure	29 December 1853.
Number of Days on the Voyage	114.
Registered Tonnage	550.
Superficies of Passengers' Deck	—
Number of Statute Adults admissible	—
Number of such Adults actually on board	251.
Number of Crew	20.
Port at which Vessel touched	St. Helena.
Date of touching	25 March 1853.
Days there	2 days.
If placed in Quarantine, state the Cause	—

Emigrants Embarked.					Births on the Voyage.		Deaths on the Voyage.				Emigrants Landed.				
Adults.		Children under 14.		Total.	M.	F.	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children under 14.		Total.
M.	F.	M.	F.				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
254	- -	- -	- -	254	- -	- -	3	- -	- -	- -	251	- -	- -	- -	251

The above Immigrants were in excellent order except one consumptive and one accidentally hurt a few days previous to landing.

(signed) *Hy. Mitchell,*
Government Immigration Agent.

Enclosure 2, in No. 4.

Encl. 2, in No. 4.

Sir, Port of Spain, 23 April 1851.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency Lord Harris, that I visited officially this morning the immigrant ship "Clarendon," from Whampoa, in the Canton river.

This ship took on board at that place 254 Chinese immigrants, of which number three died on the passage hither; one case from dysentery, and two of fever of complicated type.

These immigrants present almost without exception a healthy and robust appearance, only one of the whole number requiring to go to hospital; this is a case of pulmonary consumption in the first stage of the disease.

The

The ailments on the passage were trifling, mostly cutaneous affections, yielding to an appropriate treatment.

The accommodations of the ship are unexceptionable.

It is proper to state, that in addition to the deaths among the immigrants, the first mate of the ship died on the passage from dysentery.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Thos. Anderson*, M.D.,
Inspector of Health of Shipping.

The Honourable James L. Wildman,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Enclosure 3, in No. 4.

I, A. GQUNG, native of the village of , in the province of Quantung, in China, of the age of 28 years, have agreed to embark in the vessel "Clarendon," with the object of proceeding to the colony of Trinidad, obliging myself from and after my arrival to dedicate myself there to the orders of the Honourable the Immigration agent of that colony, to whatever class of labour I may be destined, whether in plantations or other estates, during the customary hours of work in that colony, or even at other than plantation labour, as may be most convenient to the Honourable the Immigration Agent, or whoever may become the holder of this engagement, and to perform said work for five dollars of salary monthly, maintenance of eight ounces of beef, one and a half pounds of other alimentary food daily, medical assistance and medicines, two suits of clothes, one blanket and one flannel shirt annually, it being agreed that in case of sickness, should it exceed 15 days, my salary will be suspended until I return to work, continuing in the meanwhile to receive medicines and medical attendance; or, in place of all the foregoing, that I shall receive seven dollars per month, and find myself in all provisions and other necessaries, fulfilling these obligations for the space of five years continuous, which are fixed for the term of this engagement, during which it shall not be permitted me to leave the colony, nor deny my services to the persons to whom this engagement may be transferred; at the end of that period I shall be at liberty to act as may seem to me best. My passage and maintenance on board of said vessel shall be on account of Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co., from whom I confess having received by Messrs. Turner & Co. the sum of 10 dollars in silver for my outfit for said voyage, and also two suits of new clothes with which to land, amounting to , on condition that said dollars I shall pay in to the order of Messrs. Hyde, Hodge & Co., by one dollar monthly, which shall be deducted from my salary by the Honourable the Immigration agent, or the persons to whom this engagement may be transferred, it being understood that on no other plea whatever shall anything be deducted from my wages; and in faith of fulfilling punctually this said obligation I signed in Whampoa, this the 28th day of December 1852.

Encl. 3, in No. 4.

It is understood that the salary agreed shall commence to run from within 24 hours after landing at Trinidad, unless both parties agree to cancel this agreement after arrival there.

— No. 5. —

(No. 84.)

No. 5.
Governor Lord Harris to the Duke of Newcastle.
4 July 1853.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lord *Harris* to his Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*.

Trinidad, 4 July 1853.
(Received 1 August 1853.)

My Lord Duke,

I HAVE the honour to report to your Grace the arrival of the "Lady Flora Hastings" with 305 Chinamen.

Copies of the reports of the health officer and of the agent general of immigrants are enclosed.

I have again to complain to your Grace about this vessel having arrived here without an interpreter.

The difficulties which have occurred in consequence of this unaccountable neglect have been and are very great.

We have but one interpreter, procured unexpectedly from a coolie's ship, in which he was engaged as carpenter, and he is now almost worn out from having so constantly to run about the country from one police station to another.

The captain of "The Lady Flora Hastings" informs me that he could have brought any number of interpreters, speaking English well, from Hong Kong.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Harris*.

TRINIDAD.

Enclosure 1, in No. 5.

Encl. 1, in No. 5.

Sir, Port of Spain, 28 June 1853.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency Lord Harris, that I visited this day the immigrant ship "Lady Flora Hastings," out 107 days from Amoy, having touched at St. Helena, with Chinese coolies on board. This vessel received on board 316 immigrants, all from 14 to 40 years of age, of which number nine have died on the passage; three from fever, two from dysentery, one from inflammation of the lungs, one from scurvy, also two from sudden affections of the head; cutaneous affections and bowel complaints prevailed on the passage.

The doctor reports eight requiring to go to hospital, none of them acute cases; there are two Chinese doctors on board appointed to attend the sick, in addition to the ship surgeon.

These immigrants are, without exception, strong and healthy, and are in the highest spirits; the captain states, that he found them tractable and well conducted; the accommodations on board for the immigrants are very good.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Thos. Anderson*, M.D.,
Inspector of Health of Shipping.

The Honourable Thomas F. Johnston,
Colonial Secretary.

Enclosure 2, in No. 5.

Encl. 2, in No. 5.

Port of Spain, 8 July 1853.

REPORT on the Immigrants by the Ship "Lady Flora Hastings," which arrived at *Trinidad* from *Namoa* on the 28th June 1853.

Name of the Master	W. Wild.
Name of the Surgeon	G. W. Nichols.
Date of Departure	11 March 1853.
Number of Days on the Voyage	108.
Registered Tonnage	674.
Superficies of Passengers' Deck	—
Number of Statute Adults admissible	—
Number of such Adults actually on board	305.
Number of Crew	22.
Port at which Vessels touched	St. Helena.
Date of touching	31 May 1853.
Days there	One.
If placed in Quarantine, state the Cause	Nil.

Emigrants Embarked.					Births on the Voyage.		Deaths on the Voyage.				Emigrants Landed.				
Adults.		Children under 14.		Total.	M.	F.	Adults.		Children under 14.		Adults.		Children under 14.		Total.
M.	F.	M.	F.				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
314	- -	- -	- -	314	—	—	9	- -	- -	- -	305	- -	305	- -	305

These immigrants were all landed in excellent condition, except 12 sent to hospital, chiefly cases of scurvy, complicated with rheumatic pains.

(signed) *Hy. Mitchell*,
Agent-general of Immigrants.

TRINIDAD.

— No. 6. —

(No. 87.)

No. 6.
Governor Lord Harris to the Duke of Newcastle.
7 July 1853.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lord *Harris* to his Grace the Duke of *Newcastle*.

Trinidad, 7 July 1853.
(Received 1 August 1853.)

My Lord Duke,

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Grace a copy of a resolution passed at the last meeting of the Legislative Council of this colony, which is to the effect that 300 Chinese should be imported next year, in addition to the 1,000 coolies.

The intention of this resolution is to show that there is no desire on the part of this colony to relinquish the Chinese immigration, but that if the funds for immigration purposes allow of it, it is thought desirable that the connexion now established should be continued.

I was requested also to mention to your Grace, that it would be very desirable if half of the number at least could be women. I find from the captain of the "Lady Flora Hastings," who appears very well acquainted with the service, that there would be no difficulty whatever in procuring women, but that to succeed in doing so, it would be necessary to accede to the custom of the country by giving a bonus in money for them.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Harris*.

Enclosure in No. 6.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Legislative Council, dated Friday, 1st July 1853.

Encl. in No. 6.

Resolved,—"THAT in addition to the 1,000 coolies to be introduced from India in the year 1854, it is expedient also to introduce 300 free labourers from China, such number to include 150 females, if procurable."

Despatches from the Secretary of State.

— No. 1. —

(No. 15.)

No. 1.
Duke of Newcastle to Governor Lord Harris.
31 January 1853.

COPY of a DESPATCH from his Grace the Duke of *Newcastle* to Governor Lord *Harris*.

My Lord,

Downing-street, 31 January 1853.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, copies of two letters from the Foreign Department forwarding copies of despatches and other documents received from Dr. Bowring, relating to the emigration of Chinese labourers.

4 December 1852. See p. 96.
27 December 1852. See p. 96.
7 January 1853. See p. 96.

I also enclose a copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, to whom these papers have been referred.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Newcastle*.

TRINIDAD.

— No. 2. —

(No. 23.)

No. 2. Duke of Newcastle to Governor Lord Harris. 20 February 1853.

COPY of a DESPATCH from his Grace the Duke of *Newcastle* to Governor Lord *Harris*.

My Lord, Downing-street, *20 February 1853.*

WITH reference to my despatch of the 31st ultimo, I transmit to you a copy of a letter from the Foreign Department, enclosing copy of a further one from Dr. Bowring, in reference to the emigration of the Chinese, together with a copy of a report from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners on the subject.

20 January 1853. See p. 101.

18 February 1853. See p. 101.

You will examine into and report on the allegations contained in the last paragraph of Dr. Bowring's letter, as suggested by the Commissioners.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Newcastle.*

— No. 3. —

(No. 31.)

No. 3. Duke of Newcastle to Governor Lord Harris. 22 March 1853.

COPY of a DESPATCH from his Grace the Duke of *Newcastle* to Governor Lord *Harris.*

My Lord, Downing-street, *22 March 1853.*

I TRANSMIT to you herewith an extract from a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners; transmitting copies of two letters received from Mr. White, the agent for conducting Chinese emigration, reporting the progress that has been made in despatching emigrants to the West Indies.

24 February 1853. See p. 103.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Newcastle.*

— No. 4. —

(No. 32.)

No. 4. Duke of Newcastle to Governor Lord Harris. 24 March 1853.

COPY of a DESPATCH from his Grace the Duke of *Newcastle* to Governor Lord *Harris.*

My Lord, Downing-street, 24 March 1853.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, with copies of two further letters from Mr. White, reporting the progress he has made in the despatch of Chinese emigrants to the West Indies.

8 March 1853. See p. 109.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Newcastle.*

— No. 5. —

(No. 41.)

No. 5. Duke of Newcastle to Governor Lord Harris. 20 April 1853.

COPY of a DESPATCH from his Grace the Duke of *Newcastle* to Governor Lord *Harris.*

My Lord, Downing-street, 20 April 1853.

I TRANSMIT to you, for your information, a copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, with copy of a further report from Mr. White, on Chinese emigration to the West Indies.

7 April 1853. See p. 111.

I have, &c.
(signed *Newcastle.*

— No. 6.—

(No. 59.)

No. 6.
Duke of Newcastle to Governor Lord Harris.
30 May 1853.

COPY of a DESPATCH from his Grace the Duke of *Newcastle* to Governor Lord *Harris*.

My Lord, Downing-street, 30 May 1853.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, with copies of communications from Mr. White, on the subject of emigration from China.

19 May 1853. See p. 121.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Newcastle.*

— No. 7. —

(No. 74.)

No. 7.
Duke of Newcastle to Governor Lord Harris.
29 June 1853.

COPY of a DESPATCH from his Grace the Duke of *Newcastle* to Governor Lord *Harris*.

My Lord, Downing-street, 29 June 1853.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, with copies of two further letters from Mr. White, the emigration-agent, in China.

15 June 1853. See p. 128.

I have instructed the Lieutenant-Governor of British Guiana to provide a passage to Trinidad for the Chinese interpreter, as suggested by the Emigration Commissioners.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Newcastle.*

— No. 8.—

(No. 80.)

No. 8.
Duke of Newcastle to Governor Lord Harris.
13 July 1853.

COPY of a DESPATCH from his Grace the Duke of *Newcastle* to Governor Lord *Harris*.

My Lord, Downing-street, 13 July 1853.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 29th June last, No. 74, I transmit to you herewith a copy of a letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, and I have to acquaint you that in compliance with their recommendation I have instructed the Lieutenant-Governor of British Guiana to retain the whole of the immigrants' clothing which had been shipped by Mr. White from China, instead of transferring a portion to Trinidad, as originally suggested in their letter of the 15th June.

2 July 1853. See p. 135.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Newcastle.*

— No. 9. —

(No. 89.)

No. 9.
Duke of Newcastle to Governor Lord Harris.
16 August 1853.

COPY of a DESPATCH from his Grace the Duke of *Newcastle* to Governor Lord *Harris*.

My Lord, Downing-street, 16 August 1853.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, copies of two letters from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, reporting that they had been unable to obtain shipping at a cost not exceeding 100 dollars for the conveyance of Chinese emigrants to Jamaica and British Guiana.

8 August 1853. See p. 136.
9 August 1853. See p. 136.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Newcastle.*

APPENDIX.

Appendix.

Appendix, No. 1.

BRITISH GUIANA.—No. 20.—1851.

(Court of Policy.)

Referred to at p. 27. AN ORDINANCE to Provide General Regulations for Immigrants introduced and to be introduced into the Colony of *British Guiana*.

Ordinance enacted by his Excellency Henry Barkly, Esquire, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Colony of *British Guiana*, Vice-Admiral and Ordinary of the same, &c., &c., &c., by and with the advice and consent of the Honourable the Court of Policy of said Colony.

To all to whom these presents do, may, or shall come, greeting; be it known:—

Preamble. WHEREAS it is necessary to provide general regulations for immigrants introduced and to be introduced into the colony of British Guiana:

Governor to appoint Agent-general of Immigration. 1. Be it therefore enacted by his Excellency the Governor of British Guiana, with the advice and consent of the Court of Policy thereof, that the Governor may, from time to time, nominate and appoint some fit and proper person, resident in this colony, to be Agent general of Immigration, who shall be paid annually such salary, not exceeding the sum of 2,400 dollars, as the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Court of Policy, shall determine.

Agent-general to give security. 2. And be it enacted, that the said Agent-general shall give to Her Majesty, her heirs, and successors, good and sufficient security, to be approved of by the Governor, to the amount of 2,400 dollars, for the due and faithful discharge of the duties of his office, and especially for the due application of, and for the rendering true accounts of the due application of all monies which shall be received by him, or by his order or to his use, in such his capacity of Agent-general of Immigration.

Governor to appoint sub-agents. 3. And be it enacted, that the Governor, with the advice and consent as aforesaid, may nominate and appoint from time to time one or more sub-agents, residing within the colony, who shall be under the direction and control of the said Agent-general; and the Governor may allow to each sub-agent remuneration not exceeding the sum of 480 dollars per annum.

Statement of advantages to labourers in this colony. 4. And be it enacted, that the said Agent-general shall cause to be prepared, once in every quarter, and oftener, if the Governor shall think fit so to direct, a statement of the advantages generally afforded by employers to labourers in this colony, and shall deliver the same to the Governor.

Remuneration to agents abroad, how paid. 5. And be it enacted, that the Governor may, from time to time, pay a proportion of the salary or remuneration granted by Her Majesty to each of such persons as are or may be appointed at places from which emigration may be sanctioned, to superintend the emigration of labourers to any of Her Majesty's colonies in the West Indies and to British Guiana; every such salary or remuneration to be borne by the respective colonies in the proportions in which emigrants may be sent to them respectively.

Duties of collecting agents. 6. And be it enacted, that every agent employed to collect immigrants shall use all just and lawful means to procure persons who are agricultural labourers willing to emigrate to this colony, with their wives and children, if any, and shall explain to every such emigrant the real advantages likely to be derived by him from a removal to this colony, and such agent shall also ascertain that every such emigrant is an agricultural labourer in good health, and not incapacitated for agricultural labour by old age, infirmity, or disease.

What expenses collecting agents may incur. 7. And be it enacted, that every moderate and necessary expense incurred at any port or place where any such agent is appointed for the collection of emigrants, in conveying emigrants to the port of embarkation, in maintaining them there for a period not exceeding 15 days, and in providing them with a supply of clothing as may be requisite for their voyage to this colony, shall be defrayed by such agent, who shall transmit to the Governor of this colony an account thereof duly vouched, showing the particulars of such expenditure, countersigned by the Governor of such place, or by such officer as he may appoint, if the same be a British possession, or by Her Majesty's consul at any foreign port or place, such Governor, officer, or consul, as the case may be, certifying thereby, so far as he knows, that such expenditure has been solely incurred for the purposes aforesaid, or for any of such purposes, and is just andreasonable; and the Governor of this colony, upon such certificate,

or

or upon such other evidence as he may deem requisite, shall issue his warrant to the Colonial Receiver-general to pay the amount of such account.

Certificate and list to be furnished by agents abroad.

8. And be it enacted, that upon a vessel with emigrants sailing from any port or place from which emigration is permitted, the agent appointed for any such port or place shall see that all the directions herein contained, and all the provisions of the Act of Parliament, passed in the session holden in the 12th & 13th years of Her Majesty's reign, chapter 33, intituled "An Act for regulating the carriage of passengers in merchant vessels," and known as the "Passengers' Act, 1849," so far as the same may be applicable, have been complied with, and shall grant a certificate thereof in the form annexed marked (A.) under his hand to the master of such vessel, and such agent, before such vessel is cleared out, shall make out a list in writing in the form annexed marked (B.) or such other form as may be most convenient, together with a duplicate of the same, specifying as accurately as may be, the name, sex, and age of each of the emigrants on board such vessel at her departure, and shall retain such list and shall deliver to the master of the said vessel the duplicate of such list signed by such agent; and the said master shall, on the arrival of such vessel in this colony, and previous to the disembarkation of any emigrant, give notice of the arrival of such vessel, and deliver the said duplicate of such list to the Agent-general of Immigration to this colony.

Duties of Agent-general on arrival of ships with immigrants.

9. And be it enacted, that upon the arrival in the colony of any vessel having immigrants on board, the Agent-general, accompanied by the health officer of this port, shall forthwith proceed on board of such vessel, and with the assistance of such officer, shall ascertain, by personal inspection of the vessel and immigrants, whether the provisions of this Ordinance, and also the provisions of the "Passengers' Act, 1849" as far as they may be applicable, have been complied with or not; and such Agent-general, with such assistance as aforesaid, shall personally muster such immigrants and compare the number and names of such immigrants with the duplicate list furnished to the master by the agent at the port of embarkation, and shall certify upon such duplicate list the name of the vessel, the total number of immigrants then living and on board of such vessel, together with the state or condition of each immigrant, his fitness for agricultural labour, and at whose cost and charges the same is imported; and in case any immigrant shall have died during the passage, or the number or names of the immigrants shall differ from the number and names of the immigrants stated in such duplicate list, the Agent-general shall note such death or difference upon such duplicate list, and thereupon, with the approbation of the Governor, shall grant a licence for the disembarkation and landing of the immigrants from such vessel: Provided always, that immigrants imported from the Island of Madeira, from any of the Islands of the Azores, Cape de Verd Islands, Canary Islands, and other places of similar distance, may be so imported at the rate of one immigrant for each ton of the measurement of the vessel in which they are imported and no more.

Fees of health officer.

10. And be it enacted, that such health officer for his assistance and services as aforesaid, shall be allowed the sum of 10 cents of a dollar for every immigrant on board of any such vessel.

Maintenance of immigrants till employed.

11. And be it enacted, that if any immigrants shall not, on their arrival, be immediately provided with employment, it shall be the duty of the Agent-general to provide such immigrants with wholesome and sufficient food, and with convenient lodging on shore, until the means of earning their own subsistence can be procured for them; and the Agent-general shall deliver to the Governor an account, supported by all necessary vouchers, of the expenditure incurred by him in procuring such food and lodging, and if such account be approved of by the Governor, the same shall be paid by the Colonial Receiver-general.

Agent-general to keep separate registers of immigrants.

12. And be it enacted, that the Agent-general of Immigration shall keep separate registers of all immigrants introduced into this colony, that is to say, firstly, a register of immigrants from any of Her Majesty's possessions in the East Indies; secondly, a register of indented Africans; thirdly, a register of Portuguese immigrants; fourthly, a register of Chinese immigrants; and fifthly, a register of all other immigrants not coming under the denomination of any of the immigrants mentioned in any of the aforesaid classes, and shall in each of such registers insert the name of each immigrant thereto belonging, and shall number each of the immigrants of each class by a particular number, commencing with the number 1, and proceeding in regular order with the other numbers, so that no two immigrants of the same class shall bear the same number, and shall insert, in each of such registers, under different heads, the number, name, age, and sex of every immigrant belonging to such class, the time when, the place from which, the name of the party, if any, at whose cost and charges such immigrant is imported, and the vessel in which such immigrant shall have arrived, together with the cost of the passage of such immigrant, and also whether such immigrant is or is not entitled to a return passage.

Mode of applying for immigrants.

13. And be it enacted, that any employer who may be desirous of locating immigrants under the provisions of this Ordinance on his plantation, shall make application to the Agent-general, fully setting forth in writing the situation of such plantation, the name of the proprietor thereof, the number and description of the immigrants required, the nature of the labour to be performed, and all other particulars; and such application shall not be received unless accompanied with a certificate of the special justice of the peace for the district where the immigrants are to be located, that comfortable and sufficient accommodation, and medical attendance according to law, have been provided for such immigrants, and the

Appendix.

Agent-general shall make and keep in his office a true and faithful register of all such applications and certificates.

List of applications to be published.

14. And be it enacted, that all such applications shall be numbered in the order in which they shall be respectively received (such numbering, however, not to give any right of preference to any person or plantation over any other person or plantation), and shall remain good and valid, in so far as the number of immigrants applied for shall not be allotted, for a period of two years, unless withdrawn by the applicant or rendered invalid by the death, insolvency, or absence, unrepresented, of the owner of the plantation, and the Immigration Agent-general shall publish, on or before the 1st day of January and 1st day of July, respectively, of each year, in the official "Gazette," and one other newspaper of the colony, a list in the form annexed marked (C.), or in such other form as may be approved by the Governor, in which list shall be set forth the number of the application, the name of the applicant, the number of immigrants applied for, the number allotted, the date of each allotment, and the location of each immigrant.

Allotment and contract of immigrants.

15. And be it enacted, that on the arrival in this colony of any immigrants (immigrants from the Island of Madeira, or any of the Islands of the Azores, Cape de Verd Islands, Canary Islands, and other places of similar distance excepted), not already under a written contract with some individual, the Agent-general of Immigration shall proceed to allot them on such plantations as they may prefer, or if they do not desire to exercise any preference, shall allot them in such numbers and proportions as circumstances will admit of, to those plantations for which applications for immigrants shall have been previously made, and submitted to the Governor, and been by him approved; and that after such allotments, each applicant, to whom immigrants shall have been allotted as aforesaid, before he shall become entitled to the services of such immigrants, shall enter into a contract with each immigrant in the form annexed marked (D.), or in such other form as may be approved by the Governor, for a period not less than 12 calendar months, and not exceeding three years, except in cases in which some other form or some other period of service is specially provided, and shall pay to the Agent-general of Immigration a duty of two dollars upon each of said contracts, and if the term of service expressed in such contract shall be for more years than one, shall further pay to the Colonial Receiver-general, or Assistant Colonial Receiver-general, at the commencement of each subsequent year of such term of service, a sum of four dollars for each immigrant in service on his plantation under such written contract to labour, on the 30th day of June or 31st day of December, immediately preceding; and in the event of any such annual duty being unpaid for one month after the commencement of the year for which it is payable, the operation of the contract between the employer and immigrant shall be suspended and in abeyance, in as far as the employer is concerned, until such annual duty be paid, except that the payment of such duty by such employer shall be enforced in manner and form hereinafter provided.

Immigrants not under contract to labour to pay monthly sums.

16. And be it enacted, that every immigrant (immigrants from the Island of Madeira, or any of the Islands of the Azores, Cape de Verd Islands, Canary Islands, and other places of similar distances excepted), introduced into this colony at the public expense, after the taking effect of this ordinance, who being permitted by law to enter into a contract with any employer for three years or five years, shall not, during the said three years or five years, be in the service of some employer or other, under a written contract to labour on a plantation, for every month of said three years or five years, during which he shall not be under such contract, if he shall be an immigrant with whom it was permitted by law for an employer to have originally entered into a contract for three years, shall pay in advance a monthly sum of one dollar, and if he shall be an immigrant with whom it was permitted by law for an employer to have originally entered into a contract for five years, shall pay in advance a monthly sum of one dollar and 50 cents; and all such sums shall be designated throughout this and every ordinance passed and to be passed relative to immigrants as "monthly sums."

Immigrants may enter into a second contract for a term not exceeding the original legal return.

17. And be it enacted, that every immigrant remaining in the colony for the period for which, on arriving in the colony, he was permitted by law to enter into a contract under and by virtue of this or any other ordinance relating to immigrants, may, at the expiration of such period, enter into a written contract before the Agent-general of Immigration or a special justice of the peace, to serve any person as a labourer for any term not exceeding the first term for which he was permitted by law to enter into a written contract.

Renewed contracts.

18. And be it enacted, that upon every renewed contract entered into on the expiration of a prior contract with the same employer by any immigrant with whom, on his arriving in the colony, a first contract was entered into for a term less than three years or five years, a duty of four dollars, if such renewed contract shall be for one year only, shall be paid by the employer to the Agent-general of Immigration, or special justice before whom such renewed contract shall be signed at the time of such renewed contract, and a duty of four dollars per annum for the second and each subsequent year, if such renewed contract shall be for more than one year, shall be paid by the employer to the Colonial Receiver-general, or Assistant Colonial Receiver-general, at the commencement of such second and subsequent years respectively; and upon every contract entered into with any other employer by any immigrant during such three years or five, if such contract be for one year only, there shall be paid to the Agent-general of Immigration or special justice by the employer, at the time of entering into such last mentioned contract, a sum of six dollars; and if such contract

tract shall be for more than one year, then a sum of six dollars for each year of the term of service specified in such contract shall be paid to the Colonial Receiver-general, or Assistant Colonial Receiver-general, at the commencement of such second and subsequent years respectively; and the special justice before whom any contract shall be signed or entered into shall forthwith certify to the Agent-general of Immigration the class, number, and name of the immigrant, the name of the employer, and the name of the plantation on which the immigrant shall be engaged to labour, and shall grant a copy of such certificate under his hand to the immigrant entering into such contract; and of all contracts mentioned in this section the special justice of the peace before whom they shall be entered into, shall make a return in the form annexed marked (E.): Provided always, that no duty shall be paid upon any contract entered into with any immigrant, after the expiration of the longest term for which, on his arrival in the colony, he was permitted by law to have contracted to serve any employer.

Returns of immigrants to be made annually by special justice.

19. And be it enacted, that every employer of immigrants under a written contract to labour, or the manager or other person in charge of such immigrants, shall, on or before the 10th day of January and 10th day of July in each and every year, make out and deliver to the special justice of the peace of the district in which such immigrants shall be located, a return in writing, to be proved on the oath of the person making such return, to be taken before such special justice, of the number of immigrants in his service under written contract on the last day of the preceding month, which return shall be made in the manner and form specified in the schedule hereto annexed, marked (F.), and shall be described as the return of the person to whom such immigrants shall have been under a written contract, and shall contain a specification of the total number of immigrants so under written contracts, and of the time when, and of the numbers and names by which the same shall have entered into such contracts, respectively, and also all deductions from the original number of immigrants under written contracts as aforesaid, which shall have taken place within the last preceding six months by death or desertion, and also the births of any child or children of any females among such immigrants, specifying the age and sex of such child or children; which return shall by such special justice be transmitted to the Agent-general of Immigration; and any person who shall neglect to deliver to the special justice of the peace as aforesaid, within the time specified, any such return as aforesaid, shall pay a sum of not less than 10 dollars, and not exceeding 23 dollars, and a like sum for each and every month during which such neglect shall continue; and a return of all fines under this section shall be made by the special justice to the Agent-general of Immigration, who shall authorise any collector of monthly sums to recover the same.

Penalty for neglect.

Special justices to keep register of immigrants.

20. And be it enacted, that there shall be kept by the special justice of the peace of each district a book, in which shall be enregistered, in such manner as the Governor may, from time to time, direct, the class, name, and number of each immigrant who may have been or may be introduced into this colony since the 4th day of March 1848, and who may be resident within such district; and every such special justice shall, on or before the 10th day of each month, certify to the Agent-general of Immigration the classes, names, numbers, and locations of immigrants resident within his district, who, liable to pay monthly sums, have not paid the same.

Collection of monthly sums.

21. And be it enacted, that the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Court of Policy, may appoint, from time to time, such a number of fit and proper persons, giving such sufficient security as may be deemed necessary, for the purpose of collecting and recovering, under the direction and control of the special justice of the district, and subject to such regulations as may be by him established with the approval of the Governor and Court of Policy, the monthly sums payable by immigrants; and the Governor, with the advice and consent aforesaid, may allow to each of such persons remuneration not exceeding the rate of 480 dollars per annum.

Collection of monthly sums.

22. And be it enacted, that each special justice shall, within the first seven days of each month, issue his warrant according to the form (G.) in the schedule annexed, for the recovery of all monthly sums payable under this ordinance, and which at the time of the issuing of such warrant may remain unpaid, specifying in such warrant or in some schedule to be attached thereto, the classes, names, and numbers of the immigrants liable to pay the same; and it shall be lawful for any constable having the execution of such warrant to apprehend any such immigrants in any part of the colony, and for that purpose at any time of the day to enter into any house or place, or upon any land in the colony where any such immigrant may be or may reasonably be suspected to be, and if any such immigrant shall not immediately produce a receipt for the amount of such monthly sums, or a sufficient certificate of exemption from the same, or shall not forthwith pay such monthly sums, together with the further sum of 25 cents of a dollar for each monthly sum in arrear, unless some other sum be specially named in some other ordinance as applicable to any particular immigrant or class of immigrants, such immigrant shall be forthwith committed to gaol, there to be imprisoned and kept to hard labour for the term of 14 days, for every monthly sum due by him, unless such monthly sums and penalty be sooner paid, and the gaoler, or other person, under whose charge such immigrant shall have been so imprisoned, shall grant his certificate according to the form (H.), in the schedule annexed, or such other form as may be approved of by the Governor, of the fact of such monthly sums having been satisfied by such imprisonment.

Agent-general of Immigration to make out list of

23. And be it enacted, that the Agent-general of Immigration, on or before the 10th day of January and the 10th day of July in every year, shall make out a list of all employers liable

employers to pay annual duties.

liable for the payment of annual duties during the six months ending respectively on the 30th June and the 31st December next ensuing, specifying the several periods at which such duties will become payable, the amount of such duties, the numbers, names, and descriptions of the immigrants in respect to whose contracts they are claimed, and the name of the plantation on which they are located; and the Agent-general of Immigration shall forthwith transmit a copy of that part of such list which relates to each judicial district to the special justice thereof.

Special justices to correct such lists.

24. And be it enacted, that every special justice, on the receipt of such copy as aforesaid, shall compare the dates of such contracts, the amount of duties, numbers, and names of immigrants stated therein, with the particulars stated in the returns mentioned in section 19 of this ordinance, and if there shall be no discrepancy between the two, shall certify the list to be correct, and shall forthwith return the same to the Agent-general of Immigration; but if any discrepancy shall be found to exist, it shall be the duty of such special justice, within 10 days after the receipt of such list, to inquire into the origin of such discrepancy to ascertain, by personal inspection, if necessary, the number of immigrants on any plantation, and to correct such list if he shall deem it right to do so, previous to returning it certified to the Agent-general of Immigration.

Receiver-general to recover annual duties.

25. And be it enacted, that the Agent-general of Immigration, on the receipt of such certified lists as aforesaid, after taking due notice in his registers of any corrections by reason of death or otherwise, shall transmit the same within five days to the Receiver-general or Assistant Receiver-general, who shall recover payment of all annual duties when due.

No registered immigrant to leave the colony without passport.

26. And be it enacted, that it shall not be lawful for any immigrant whose name shall appear in any of such registers as aforesaid, or who shall be subject to the payment of monthly sums in lieu of serving some particular employer, to depart from the colony during the time he is under indenture, written agreement, written contract, or any legal obligation to pay such monthly sums, without a licence in writing signed by the Agent-general of Immigration; and every master or other person in charge of any vessel who shall receive or harbour on board of such vessel, with the intention of carrying out of this colony any such immigrant, who shall not have obtained such licence, shall on conviction thereof forfeit and pay a sum of not less than 250 dollars, and not exceeding 500 dollars, for each and every such emigrant whom he shall have so received or harboured with such intention as aforesaid; and every such penalty shall and may be sued for, prosecuted and recovered, for and on the behalf of Her Majesty in the Supreme Court of Civil Justice by the Attorney-general, or in the Court of Vice-Admiralty by Her Majesty's Advocate, and in the event of such master or other person being in command of any such vessel of 100 tons burthen and upwards, such penalty and costs shall and may be recovered from the master of such vessel and from the owner of such vessel, and from the surety of the master of such vessel, or any of them, and in the event of any such vessel being under 100 tons burthen, every such penalty and costs shall and may be recovered from the master of such last mentioned vessel, and from the owner of such last-mentioned vessel, or from either of them, or by levying upon and sale of such last mentioned vessel.

Penalty on persons employing immigrants under contract with others.

Penalty on immigrants absent from work without excuse.

27. And be it enacted, that every person who shall harbour, conceal, or employ any immigrant, being at the time under a written contract to labour for any other employer, or who shall remove or entice away, or shall solicit or entice any such immigrant to remove from the employment or service of his or her employer, shall, for every such offence, on conviction thereof before a special justice of the peace, forfeit and pay the sum of 23 dollars, and shall further pay to the employer to whom such immigrant shall be under such written contract to labour the sum of one dollar for each day during which such immigrant shall have been so harboured or employed, and if the employer or person in charge of any such immigrant shall prove upon oath before any special justice of the peace, a reasonable cause to suspect that such immigrant is harboured, concealed, or employed on the premises of any person, such special justice of the peace may grant a warrant to search for such immigrant and bring him or her, and the person by whom such immigrant may be harboured, concealed, or employed, before him, to be dealt with as aforesaid: Provided always, that in every case in which any dispute or difference shall arise as to whether any person who shall have harboured, concealed, or employed any immigrant, being at the time under a written contract to labour, or who shall have removed or enticed away, or shall have solicited or enticed any such immigrant to remove from the employment or service of his or her employer, had knowledge of any such immigrant being at the time under such contract, the proof of the absence or want of knowledge of every such person shall be on such person, and the proof of the knowledge of such person shall not be on the party aggrieved complaining of informing.

Immigrant under contract absenting himself to forfeit wages.

28. And be it enacted, that any immigrant (coolies excepted) under contract to labour, who shall, without reasonable cause, absent himself from the service of his employer, shall, on conviction before a special justice of the peace, be liable to a forfeiture of two days' wages for each and every day he shall be so absent; the said penalty to be deducted from any wages due to such immigrant, and in the event of no wages being due, then such immigrant shall be imprisoned, with or without hard labour, at the rate of two days' imprisonment for every day he shall have so absented himself, such imprisonment not at any one time to exceed 30 days.

Immigrant guilty of misconduct to be punished.

29. And be it enacted, that any immigrant aforesaid, who shall be guilty of any misconduct, or shall practise any fraud or deception in the performance of any work which he is bound

bound to perform, or shall by negligence or other improper conduct lose, throw away, or damage the property of his employer, or shall endanger such property by the careless use of fire, or shall wilfully maim, wound, or cruelly ill-use any live stock or cattle belonging to his employer, or entrusted to his care, or by negligence shall suffer to be maimed, wounded, or cruelly ill-used any such cattle or live stock, shall, on conviction before a special justice of the peace, suffer such punishment by fine or imprisonment until the same be paid, or imprisonment in any lawful place of confinement, with or without hard labour, for the whole or any part of such imprisonment, such fine not to exceed 24 dollars, and any such imprisonment not to exceed 30 days, as to such convicting special justice shall seem fit.

Immigrants under contract may be apprehended if more than two miles from home.

30. And be it enacted, that it shall be lawful for the employer of any immigrant under a written contract to labour, the servant of such employer, or any member of the police force, or constable, to apprehend, without warrant, such immigrant, who, on any day on which he shall be bound to labour, shall be found at a distance of more than two miles from the estate on which he shall be engaged to labour, without a ticket of leave signed by such employer or his servant, and to cause such immigrant to be taken back to such estate.

Agent-general may enter on estates, and inquire into complaints.

31. And be it enacted, that it shall be lawful for the Agent-general of Immigration to enter into and upon any plantation where any immigrant may be employed, and to inspect the state and condition of such immigrant, and inquire into any complaint which the employer may have against any such immigrant, or any immigrant may have against his employer.

Penalty for opposing Agent-general in the performance of his duty.

32. And be it enacted, that every person who shall obstruct the Agent-general of Immigration in entering upon any plantation where any immigrant shall be employed, or shall be by the Agent-general of Immigration reasonably supposed to be employed, or shall wilfully do any act whereby the Agent-general of Immigration may be prevented or obstructed in inquiring into the state and condition of any immigrant, shall, on conviction thereof before any two or more justices of the peace, forfeit and pay such sum, not exceeding 48 dollars for every such offence, as to the convicting justices shall seem fit.

Special justice may discharge employer or immigrant from contract.

33. And be it enacted, that it shall be lawful for any special justice, upon complaint and proof by any employer or immigrant labourer that such immigrant has been guilty of any wilful omission or neglect of duty, or that such employer has been guilty of ill-usage of such immigrant, or has not paid him his wages as agreed upon, to discharge such immigrant or such employer from his written contract, if sanctioned by the Governor.

Ill-usage of immigrant punished.

34. And be it enacted, that if any employer of such immigrant as aforesaid shall ill-use any immigrant under a contract to labour, or shall not deliver to such immigrant any articles stipulated for, and which by the contract of service are to be furnished by the employer to such immigrant, or if the articles so furnished shall not be of stipulated quantity or quality, every such employer being convicted of any such offence shall forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding 48 dollars, as to the special justice and another justice of the peace shall seem fit, such penalty to be recovered in manner and form laid down under Ordinance No. 30, 1850.

Monies received under this ordinance, how applied.

35. And be it enacted, that all salaries of officers granted, and all expenses incurred in virtue of this ordinance, shall be paid out of such funds as are raised, or may be raised for the purposes of immigration; that all monies payable by any person in virtue of any of the provisions of this ordinance, and which shall not be declared to be payable to any particular officer or person, shall be payable to the Agent-general of Immigration, to the Colonial Receiver-general or Assistant Colonial Receiver-general, or to the special justice, awarding the payment of any such money; that all sums received by the Agent-general of Immigration, or any special justice, or any other person, and not payable over to any particular person, shall be paid over to the Colonial Receiver-general or Assistant Colonial Receiver-general; that all monies received by the Colonial Receiver-general or Assistant Colonial Receiver-general under this ordinance and every other ordinance relative to immigrants, not otherwise appropriated, shall be applied to immigration purposes; and that the Colonial Receiver-general shall render annually to the Governor and Court of Policy, combined with the financial representatives of the inhabitants of the colony, a statement of all such payments and receipts.

Agent-general to make quarterly reports to Governor.

36. And be it enacted, that in addition to the reports hereinbefore directed to be made, the Agent-general of Immigration shall make and deliver to the Governor and Court of Policy, at the end of each quarter, or oftener if required by the Governor so to do, a return in the form specified in Schedule (I.), hereto annexed, of the number of immigrants who have arrived within that quarter, of the sums respectively paid for their introduction, and of the number of those who have obtained passages back, and have embarked during that period, and a full and true statement of the whole amount of bounties for which he has granted certificates, and of all monies received and expended by him in pursuance of this ordinance.

Recovery of money by Receiver-general.

37. And be it enacted, that the Colonial Receiver-General, shall enforce by parate or summary execution, the payment of all sums of money payable to him under and by virtue of this ordinance.

Ordinance No. 3 of the year 1848 partially repealed.

38. And be it enacted, that upon the taking effect of this ordinance, Ordinance No. 3, of the year 1848, intituled "An Ordinance to Regulate and Encourage Immigration," except so far as said ordinance may repeal the whole or any part of any other ordinance, and

Appendix.

except as to fines, penalties, forfeitures, offences, and other matters incurred, made, committed, or done under and by virtue of said last-mentioned ordinance, shall be repealed, and that all fines, penalties, forfeitures, offences, or other matters incurred, made, committed, or done, under and by virtue of said Ordinance No. 3, of the year 1848, shall be dealt with, recovered, or punished, as if this ordinance had not been passed, and that all contracts entered into, under and by virtue of said last-mentioned ordinance, for the term of three years, except contracts entered into, under and by virtue of said last-mentioned ordinance, by or with liberated Africans, shall remain in the same force and effect as if this ordinance had not been passed.

Jurisdiction of justices of the peace.

39. And be it enacted, that every justice of the peace authorised to act, under this or any other ordinance now or hereafter in force relating to immigrants, shall have full power and authority to issue any summons or warrant for any offence under this or any other such ordinance against any person, whether such person shall reside or shall be within or without the judicial jurisdiction of any such justice, and every such summons and warrant so issued, shall have full force and effect throughout the colony of British Guiana.

What complaints justices of the peace must entertain.

40. And be it enacted, that every such justice of the peace shall be bound to entertain any and every complaint against any and every person for every offence against this or any other such ordinance as aforesaid: Provided always, that the immigrant from whose conduct or of and concerning whom any such offence shall have arisen, shall have resided at any time within the local jurisdiction of any such justice of the peace.

Immigrants mentioned in Ordinance No. 23 of 1850 governed by this ordinance.

41. And be it enacted, that every immigrant mentioned in Ordinance No. 23, of the year 1850, in all matters not specially provided for by that ordinance, shall be subject to and governed by the provisions of this ordinance.

Interpretation clause.

42. And be it enacted, that throughout this ordinance the words and expressions hereinafter mentioned, shall have and bear the following meanings, that is to say, the words "Her Majesty," shall mean Her Majesty, her heirs, and successors; the word "Governor" shall mean every person who, for the time being, shall be in the lawful administration of the Government of this colony; the terms "Agent-general of Immigration" and Agent-general" shall not only mean the Agent-general of Immigration, but also any sub-agent appointed by the Governor to act in any particular case, or on any particular occasion, in the place and stead of the Agent-general of Immigration; the word "immigrant" shall include all immigrants already introduced, or who may be hereafter introduced into this colony at the expense of the British Treasury, or at the expense of this colony, or for whose introduction, although the same may be under private contract, the colony may hereafter pay bounty; the word "contract" and the words "written contract" shall mean also any indenture or agreement written or printed, or partly written or partly printed; the word "plantation" shall include any sugar, cocoa, coffee, plantain, rice, or cotton estate, or any woodcutting establishment, or cattle farm; the word "employer" shall include the owner, manager, or other person having the direction of, and the chief authority of or upon any such estate or plantation, or of or upon any cattle farm, or of or upon any woodcutting establishment, on which any immigrant shall be employed; that the words "indenture," "contract," and "agreement," respectively, shall mean any instrument in writing or print, or partly in writing and partly in print, evidencing an undertaking or promise of service; every word importing the singular number only shall extend and be applied to several persons or things, as well as to one person or thing; every word importing the plural number shall extend and be applied to one person, matter, or thing, as well as to several persons, matters, or things; every word importing the masculine gender only shall extend and be applied to a female as well as to a male, unless in any of the cases aforesaid it be otherwise specially provided, or there be something in the subject or context repugnant to such construction.

When ordinance to take effect.

43. And be it enacted, that this ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after the 1st day of February 1852, and that upon the taking effect of this ordinance, Ordinance No. 20, of the year 1850, shall be, and the same is hereby repealed, save and except in so far as said Ordinance No. 20, of the year 1850, may repeal any other ordinance wholly or in part, and except as to existing contracts, and all fines and penalties incurred under said Ordinance No. 20, of the year 1850, and the right of proceeding for and recovering the same.

And that no ignorance may be pretended of this our ordinance, these presents shall be printed and published in the customary manner.

Thus done and enacted at our adjourned Assembly, held at the Guiana Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerary, this 14th day of October 1851, and published on the 21st day of February 1852.

Henry Barkly.

(By command)

J. Gardiner Austin,
Acting Secretary.

Appendix.

(A.)

FORM of Clearing Certificate.

Clearing Certificate of the Emigration Agent at Station at

NAME of SHIP.	Name of Master.	Tons per Register.	Aggregate Number of Superficial Feet in the several Compartments set apart for Passengers.	Total Number of Statute Adults exclusive of Master, Crew, and Cabin Passengers the Ship can legally carry.	Sailing from.	Intending to touch at.	Bound to.

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that the foregoing appear to be the burthen and dimensions of the above named vessel, and that, having regard as well to space as to tonnage, the greatest number of passengers she can carry by the Passengers' Act, 1849, is ; and I further certify, that to the best of my knowledge and belief she is in all respects sea-worthy, and that the provisions, water, and stores actually laden on board have been duly surveyed, and are sufficient in quantity as well for the number of passengers now about to proceed in her, as for the crew, and that the same are of proper quality, and in good and sweet condition; and lastly, that all the directions contained in the Immigration Ordinance of British Guiana, and also in the Passengers' Act 1849, so far as such Act applies to said vessel, for securing the health and safety of the passengers, have been duly complied with.

Dated at this day of 1850.

Emigration Agent for at

(B.)

NOMINAL LIST of Passengers Embarked on Board of

Port of Embarkation	Number of Passengers.	Occupation or Calling of Passengers.	Age of Passengers.	Adults.			Children between 6 and 14 Years.			Children under Six Years.			Port at which Passengers are to be Landed.
				M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	
				Total No. of Souls equal to Statute Adults.									

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that the above is a correct list of all the passengers who embarked at . Dated at this day of 185 .

A. B., Agent-general of Immigration.

Appendix.

(C.)

List of Applications and Allotments.

No. of Application.	Name of Applicant.	Number of Immigrants allotted.	From what Port or Place.	Name of Vessel.	Adults.			Children between 6 and 14 Years.			Children under Six Years.			To what Plantation allotted.
					M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	

Dated at this day of 1851.

A. B., Agent-general of Immigration.

(D.)

(British Guiana.)

Be it remembered, that on this day of in the year of our Lord of and of appeared before me , Agent-general of Immigration of the colony of British Guiana, and in my presence signed their names or marks (as the case may be) to the following contract of service:—

The said agrees to hire the services of the said , and the said agrees to render to the said services in the capacity of a , for the term of years, commencing on the day of and terminating on the day of in the year . And it is further agreed between the said parties, that the said shall be employed by the said on plantation . And it is further agreed, that the said shall pay to the said as such labourer aforesaid, the same rate of wages as is paid to the labourers not under indenture or agreement working on said estate, according to the quantity of work performed, and that such wages shall be paid on the last day of , after deducting at the rate of three dollars per annum for medical attendance, and at the rate of six dollars per annum for lodging.

A. B.
C. D.

The preceding contract was signed by the above-named parties, in my presence, on the day and year above-written, voluntarily, the same being, as far as I am able to judge, fully understood by them respectively.

E. F., Agent-general of Immigration.

Appendix.

(E.)

RETURN of New Contracts and Renewed Contracts.

CLASS.	Number.	Name.	Sex.	Name of Employer.	Date of Contract.	Term of Service.	Amount of Duty Paid.	Whether Contract be new or renewed.

(F.)

HALF-YEARLY RETURN of the Number of Immigrants who have been located on Plantation , in the Parish of , in the Colony of *British Guiana*.

Whence Emigrating.	Name of Ship.	Date of Indenture or Agreement.	From Asia.		From Africa.		Africans Liberated.		Other Emigrants.						Births.			Total.	Deaths since last Return.							Number gone away since last Return.		Immigrants Remaining.						
									Adults.		Children.								Adults.		Children.						Adults.		Children.					
											Between Six and Fourteen Years of Age.		Under Six Years.								Between Fourteen and Six Years of Age.		Under Six Years.		Total.				Between Fourteen and Six Years of Age.		Under Six Years.		Total.	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	Age.		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Total																																	

Appeared before me, A. B., who being duly sworn, maketh oath and saith that the above is a true and correct return of the immigrants on plantation , on the day of 185 , as required by the 17th section of Ordinance No. 20, of the year 1851.

Sworn before me at this day of 185 . *A. B.*

(G.)

To

I DO hereby require you to demand and receive from the immigrants, whose classes, names, and numbers are mentioned in the schedule hereto annexed, the amount of the monthly sums payable by them respectively for the month of in the present year, together with a penalty for each of the monthly sums due by each of such immigrants; and in default of payment, you are to take each of such immigrants in default and convey him safely to the common gaol at , in the colony of British Guiana, and there deliver him to the keeper thereof, together with a copy of this precept, and a copy of so much of the schedule annexed as relates to him; and I do hereby command you, the said keeper of said gaol, to receive each of said immigrants into your custody in the said gaol, and him there safely keep, with hard labour, for the term of fourteen days, for every sum of one dollar and 50 cents of such monthly sums, unless such monthly sums and penalties due by him be sooner paid.

C. D., Stipendiary Justice.

Appendix.

(H.)

I DO hereby certify, that the immigrant (here insert the class, number, and name, and particulars serving to identify the immigrant) has satisfied the monthly sum or sums due and and payable by him for the month of 185 , by imprisonment with hard labour.

A. B., Gaoler.

(I.)

IMMIGRATION Agent's Quarterly Return.

Months commencing the Quarter.	Number of Emigrant Vessels Arrived.	Number of Deaths on Board or in Quarantine.	Number of Births on Board or in Quarantine.	Gross Number of Emigrants Arrived.									Number of Immigrants returned to their Native Countries.		Cost to the Colony of Immigrants so returned.
				Adults.			Children between 6 and 14 Years.			Children under Six Years.			At the Cost of the Colony.	Paying their own Passage.	
				M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.			

Dated at this day of 185

A. B., Agent-general of Immigration.

Appendix, No. 2.

BRITISH GUIANA.—No. 21.—1851.

(Court of Policy.)

AN ORDINANCE further to Regulate and Encourage the Immigration of Coolies.

Referred to at p. 27. Ordinance enacted by his Excellency Henry Barkly, Esquire, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Colony of *British Guiana*, Vice-Admiral and Ordinary of the same, &c., &c., &c., by and with the advice and consent of the Honourable the Court of Policy of said Colony.

To all to whom these presents do, may, or shall come, greeting, be it known:—

Preamble. WHEREAS Her Majesty's Government have undertaken to conduct the emigration of labourers from Her Majesty's possessions in the East Indies into this colony in vessels employed, hired, licensed, or permitted by Her Majesty's Government; and it is necessary to make provision for the due payment of the expense incurred and to be incurred on any such account by Her Majesty's Government. And whereas it is also necessary to make regulations for all such labourers:

All expenditure for importing immigrants from the East Indies, and sending them back, to be borne by the colony. 1. Be it therefore enacted by his Excellency the Governor of British Guiana, with the advice and consent of the Court of Policy thereof, that all expenditure incurred by Her Majesty's Government in the hiring, employing, and licensing of any vessel for bringing or sending immigrants into this colony from any of Her Majesty's possessions in the East Indies,

Indies, in providing for the maintenance and clothing of such immigrants during their passage or otherwise, in placing on board any vessel a surgeon, and such other just expenditure as shall be caused by and necessarily incidental to sending back any such immigrants at the expiration of their industrial residence to the place from which they shall have been brought or sent into this colony, shall be paid by the colony.

Immigrants, on arrival, to be allotted, and to enter into contracts.

2. And be it enacted, that on the arrival in this colony of any vessel with any immigrants from any of Her Majesty's possessions in the East Indies, each applicant to whom any of such immigrants shall be allotted, before he shall become entitled to the services of any of such immigrants, shall enter into a contract in writing with each of such immigrants so allotted in the presence of, and attested by the Agent-general of Immigration, which said contract shall be in the form marked (A.), or in such other form as may be approved of by he Governor.

Terms "new coolie immigrant," and "old coolie immigrant" defined.

3. And be it enacted, that the term of "new coolie immigrant" in this ordinance shall apply to all Indian labourers who shall have emigrated from any of Her Majesty's possessions in the East Indies into this colony since the 4th day of March 1848, and for whose introduction passage-money and other expenses have been paid by the colony, and to all others who may hereafter emigrate from any part of the said possessions into this colony under similar circumstances; and that the term of "old coolie immigrant" shall apply to all such Indian labourers who have immigrated into the colony previously to the above date, or to such new coolie immigrants who shall complete an industrial residence of five years.

What coolies entitled to back passages.

4. And be it enacted, that every coolie immigrant who hath arrived in this colony prior to the 4th day of March 1848, upon completing a residence of five years, and every new coolie immigrant, upon completing an industrial residence of five years, shall be entitled to a free passage back to India.

Industrial residence.

5. And be it enacted, that an industrial residence shall consist of a residence of five years in the colony, under a written contract with some planter to labour for hire on a plantation, or of a payment in lieu thereof of the monthly sum hereinafter mentioned, during the part of the above period of five years in which the immigrant is not under such a contract.

How to compute industrial residence.

6. And be it enacted, that the period of industrial residence for each immigrant shall reckon from the first day after which he did or hereafter may leave the vessel bringing him to the colony, or the depôt of immigrants; but no proof of industrial residence previous to the 4th day of March 1848, shall be required.

Coolie immigrant to obtain passport to.

7. And be it enacted, that all coolie immigrants, before leaving the colony, shall obtain a passport from the Agent-general of Immigration, and that every new coolie immigrant, not having completed an industrial residence before receiving such passport, shall pay at the rate of 1 dollar and 50 cents for each calendar month wanting to make up the term of his industrial residence.

Commutation of back passage.

8. And be it enacted, that where any coolie immigrant shall be desirous to commute his right to a free passage for the value in land to the amount of the cost of such passage, and the Governor shall see fit to grant to such immigrant out of the Crown lands of the colony a piece or parcel of land equal in value, at the upset price of Crown lands, to the amount of the cost of such return passage, such immigrant shall have the same in lieu of his right to a free passage.

Monthly sums payable by coolies not under contracts.

9. And be it enacted, that every new coolie immigrant not employed under a written contract to labour for hire as aforesaid, and not exempted as hereinafter provided, shall, for each calendar month pay a sum of 1 dollar and 50 cents if he be 16 years of age or above, or of 75 cents if he be 14 years of age and under 16 years; which sums respectively shall be payable in advance on the first day of each month.

Exemptions from monthly sums.

10. And be it enacted, that no monthly sum shall be payable by or in respect of any coolie immigrant so long as he shall be under the age of 14 years; but no part of such immigrant's residence in the colony, up to the time of his attaining the age of 14 years, shall be taken as forming part of his industrial residence.

Persons employing new coolie immigrant to declare number and name to special justice.

11. And be it enacted, that every person employing a new coolie immigrant under such a contract as aforesaid, at the time of the taking effect of this ordinance, shall, within 10 days thereafter, declare to the special justice of the district in which such new coolie immigrant is employed, the name and number of such new coolie immigrant; and every person taking into his employ a new coolie immigrant after the taking effect of this ordinance, within five days after receiving such last-mentioned immigrant into his service, shall declare to the special justice of the district in which such last-mentioned immigrant shall be employed, the number and name of such last-mentioned immigrant, on pain, in default of any of such declarations, of paying a sum not less than 10 dollars, and not exceeding 23 dollars, and a return of all fines under this section shall be made by the special justice to the Agent-general of Immigration, who shall authorise any collector of monthly sums to recover the same.

New coolie immigrant not under contract must de-

12. And be it enacted, that every new coolie immigrant who at any time after the taking effect of this ordinance shall remain eight days without being engaged to labour for hire, shall

clare the same to special justice.

shall immediately on the expiration of said eight days declare his number and name to the special justice of the district in which he resides, and shall pay the monthly sum from the commencement of the said period of eight days, unless he can satisfy the Agent-general of Immigration or special justice that he is exempted, or has not been able to procure an engagement.

Person employing a new coolie immigrant without written contract liable to payment of monthly sums.

13. And be it enacted, that every person who shall employ any new coolie immigrant, except under a written contract to labour, shall, by so doing, make himself responsible for the payment of the amount of all monthly sums which may be then due by, or for which such new coolie immigrant, during the continuance of such employment, may become liable.

Persons allowing new coolie immigrant to reside upon his premises without giving notice, liable to penalties.

14. And be it enacted, that every person allowing any new coolie immigrant not in his employ to reside on his premises, shall give notice of such residence to the special justice of the district within 48 hours after the commencement of such residence, on pain, in default thereof, of paying a sum not less than 10 dollars, and not exceeding 23 dollars, and shall further be responsible for any amount of monthly sums which may be due by such new coolie immigrant previous to or during his residence on the said premises.

Special justice may issue his warrant for monthly sums.

15. And be it enacted, that every new coolie immigrant who shall be in default of paying his monthly sum, and for the payment of which the warrant of a special justice shall be required to be issued, as directed by Ordinance No. 20, of the year 1851, shall pay a further sum of 12 cents of a dollar for each monthly sum in arrear; and if such monthly sum and further sum be not paid, such new coolie immigrant shall be forthwith committed to gaol, there to be imprisoned, and kept to hard labour, for the term and in manner and form directed by said Ordinance No. 20, of the year 1851.

New coolie immigrant paying his monthly sum entitled to a receipt.

16. And be it enacted, that every new coolie immigrant on the payment of his monthly sums shall be entitled to a receipt signed by the officer to whom the same has been paid, which receipt shall be *primâ facie* evidence of such new coolie immigrant having discharged all claims upon him to the end of the period mentioned in such receipt.

What coolie immigrants shall be exempt from monthly sums, and entitled to tickets of exemption.

17. And be it enacted, that every coolie immigrant on the completion of his industrial residence, and every old coolie immigrant, shall be exempt from payment of the monthly sums hereinbefore established; and every old coolie immigrant who is not already provided with a ticket as hereinafter described, shall, within a month after the taking effect of this ordinance, and every new coolie immigrant on becoming entitled to any such ticket, shall, within one month after the completion of his industrial residence, appear either before the Agent-general of Immigration or the special justice of the district in which he resides, and shall satisfy such officer that he is entitled to such ticket, and upon such proof being given, the Agent-general of Immigration shall furnish such immigrant with a ticket, in the Form (B.) hereunto annexed, containing his number, name, such particulars as will serve to identify him, and a declaration that such immigrant is not liable to the payment of monthly sums; and for this purpose every special justice shall register the number, name, particulars, and declaration contained in such ticket, and after delivering to such immigrant a temporary certificate bearing the number, name, particulars, and declaration in such ticket, shall transmit a copy of the original registry weekly to the Agent-general of Immigration, who shall prepare, sign, and send to the stipendiary justice a permanent ticket, to be delivered to such immigrant in exchange for the temporary certificate.

Penalty for not applying in time for ticket.

18. And be it enacted, that any old immigrant failing to apply for his ticket within the term hereinbefore prescribed, may at a later period obtain it, but from the Agent-general of Immigration only, upon paying to that officer the sum of 50 cents of a dollar.

Governor may exempt from monthly sums and grant a back passage,

19. And be it enacted, that the Governor, upon the certificate of the Agent-general of Immigration or of a special justice, may exempt, for a certain time or entirely, from the obligation of industrial residence, or from the payment of the monthly sums, any coolie immigrant incapacitated from labour by infirmity, accident, or other cause, and may further grant to any such coolie immigrant a free passage back to India.

New coolie immigrant whilst in depôt not liable for monthly sums.

20. And be it enacted, that all new coolie immigrants who on their arrival cannot find employment, shall not be liable to the payment of any sums while they remain in the depôt waiting for employment, but their admission and stay therein shall be under such regulations as will prevent abuse as far as possible.

Circumstances under which coolie immigrants may be apprehended.

21. And be it enacted, that it shall be lawful for any member of the police force or constable to stop any coolie immigrant whom he shall find on any public street, highway, or place, and also for the owner or occupier, or any servant of the owner or occupier, of any land or house, to stop any coolie immigrant found upon or about such house or land, and if such coolie immigrant, when required, shall fail to produce his contract to labour, or a certificate of industrial residence, or a certificate that he is under a contract to labour, or a certificate of exemption, or the receipt for the last monthly sum payable by such coolie immigrant, to take such coolie immigrant forthwith before a justice of the peace, who shall inquire into the case, and unless such coolie immigrant shall make it appear that he is not liable to the payment of monthly sums, or that he is not indebted in respect of the same, or that he has already undergone imprisonment for non-payment of the same, or shall make immediate payment of the amount due by him in respect of such monthly sums, such

justice

justice shall make order for the immediate commitment of such coolie immigrant to gaol, there to be kept to hard labour for the term of one day for every 12 cents or sixpence of such monthly sums in arrear.

Coolie immigrant found out of his district may be apprehended.

22. And be it enacted, that any coolie immigrant found in a district where he has no residence, or in any house or premises without the consent of the proprietor or occupier thereof, on failing to prove that he is an old coolie immigrant, or under an agreement to labour for hire, or to produce a receipt for his last monthly sums, may be apprehended without a warrant, and brought without delay before the special justice of the peace of the district, by whom he shall be committed to gaol, there to be imprisoned and kept to hard labour for any period not exceeding the term of 14 days; and that every coolie immigrant under indenture found wandering off the estate on which he is indentured shall be apprehended and carried back to such estate or lodged in gaol, of which the keeper of such gaol shall give notice to the employer of such coolie.

Onus of proof to be on immigrant in certain cases.

23. And be it enacted, that where any question shall arise whether any coolie immigrant is a new coolie immigrant or an old coolie immigrant, or whether any new coolie immigrant is under a contract to labour or not, the burthen of proof shall be on such coolie immigrant, and every coolie immigrant shall be presumed to be a new coolie immigrant, and liable to the payment of monthly sums, unless such coolie immigrant shall produce his contract to labour, or a certificate of his being under a contract to labour, or a certificate of industrial residence, or a certificate of exemption.

Coolie immigrant under contract absenting himself to forfeit wages.

24. And be it enacted, that every new coolie immigrant, being under a written contract to labour, who shall, without any lawful excuse, absent himself from his work, shall forfeit his claim to all wages for the time during which he shall so absent himself, and shall also forfeit and pay to his employer the sum of four cents of a dollar for every day during which he shall be so absent, and if he shall be absent for more than six days in any one month, the same, if proved to the satisfaction of the special justice, shall be made known by the employer to the Agent-general of Immigration, and the time during which such immigrant shall have been so absent shall not be allowed as part of his industrial residence.

Collectors of monthly sums may enter any premises in the day time.

25. And be it enacted, that any person duly authorised by the Governor to collect the monthly sums payable as aforesaid, may at any time of the day enter any premises in any part of the colony wherein any coolie immigrant is employed or resides, and may ascertain whether the notice hereinbefore required has been duly given, and whether such coolie immigrant be exempt from the payment of the monthly sums, or whether the monthly sums for the payment of which he is liable have been paid, and in case of such person not being satisfied with regard to such payment, an information duly made by him shall, in the absence of proof to the contrary, be *primâ facie* evidence of any employer or person having failed to give the notice hereinbefore required, or of the coolie immigrant having neglected to pay his monthly sums.

False pretences to be punished.

26. And be it enacted, that any new coolie immigrant pretending to be an old coolie immigrant, and endeavouring thereby to evade the conditions required by this ordinance, and any coolie immigrant using the ticket, receipt for monthly sums, or certificate of any other coolie immigrant, and any coolie immigrant lending any of the same, shall be liable to a penalty of three dollars, or 12 *s.* 6 *d.* lawful money of Great Britain and Ireland.

Falsifying any instrument punishable.

27. And be it enacted, that any immigrant or other person falsifying or altering a coolie immigrant's ticket, receipt, or certificate, and any immigrant issuing a falsified or altered coolie immigrant's ticket, receipt, or certificate, shall be liable to imprisonment with hard labour for a period not exceeding one month, without prejudice to a prosecution for forgery, if cause exist; in which latter case the special justice may commit the offender to prison, in order that the Attorney-general, to whom he shall forthwith report the circumstance of the case, may enter proceedings against the offender for such forgery.

Loss of tickets, how remedied.

28. And be it enacted, that any coolie immigrant having lost his ticket, receipt, or certificate, and proving such loss to the satisfaction of the special justice of his district, may obtain a duplicate thereof, upon the payment of the sum of 50 cents to the officer granting such duplicate, and if the loss be not proved to the satisfaction of the said special justice, the charge for a duplicate ticket, receipt, or certificate shall be the sum of three dollars.

Recovery of penalties.

29. And be it enacted, that all penalties for the recovery of which no provision has been made in this ordinance, shall be recoverable before a special justice, by the Agent-general of Immigration, or other person thereto authorised by the Governor, who shall, on or before the 10th day of each month, remit to the Colonial Receiver-general, or Assistant Colonial Receiver-general, all such penalties recovered by him during the preceding month.

Governor and Court of Policy may make regulations.

30. And be it enacted, that the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Court of Policy, may make and pass, by resolution, any regulations consistent with the provisions for its execution and enforcement.

Immigrants in this ordinance to be subject to Ordinance No. 20 of the year 1851.

31. And be it enacted, that every immigrant mentioned in this ordinance, in all matters not otherwise specially provided for by this ordinance, shall be subject to and governed by the provisions of Ordinance No. 20, of the year 1851.

Appendix.

Interpretation clause.

32. And be it enacted, that in the construction of this ordinance, the words "Her Majesty" shall mean Her Majesty, her heirs, and successors; the word "Governor" shall mean every person who, for the time being, shall be in the lawful administration of the Government of this colony;, the terms "Agent-general of Immigration" and "Agent-general" shall not only mean the Agent-general of Immigration, but also any sub-agent appointed by the Governor to act in any particular case or on any particular occasion in the place and stead of the Agent-general of Immigration; the word "planter" shall mean the owner or proprietor, or lessee, or tenant of a sugar, coffee, cotton, cocoa, plantain, or rice plantation, or of a cattle farm, or of a woodcutting establishment; the word "plantation" shall mean any of such plantations, or a woodcutting establishment; that the words "indenture," "contract," and "agreement," respectively, shall mean any instrument in writing or print, or partly in writing and partly in print, evidencing an understanding or promise of service; words importing the singular number only shall include the plural number; words importing the plural number only shall include the singular number; and words importing the masculine gender only shall include females, unless there be something in the subject or the context repugnant to such construction.

When ordinance to take effect.

33. And be it enacted, that this ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after the 1st day of February 1852, and that upon the taking effect of this ordinance, Ordinance No. 21, of the year 1850, shall be, and the same is hereby repealed, save and except in so far as said Ordinance No. 21, of the year 1850, may repeal any other ordinance wholly or in part, and except as to existing contracts, and all fines and penalties incurred and the right of prosecuting for and recovering the same.

And that no ignorance may be pretended of this our ordinance, these presents shall be printed and published in the customary manner.

Thus done and enacted at our adjourned Assembly, held at the Guiana Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara, this 14th day of October 1851, and published on the 21st day of February 1852.

Henry Barkly.

(By command)

J. Gardiner Austin,
Acting Secretary.

(A.)

(British Guiana.)

THIS Indenture, made the day of in the year of our Lord One thousand Eight hundred and , between A. B., a new coolie immigrant labourer, No. , of the one part, and C. D., of ; in the colony of British Guiana, of the other part,—Witnesseth, that in virtue of the ordinance in such case made and provided, and in consideration of the covenants, promises, and agreements on the part and behalf of the said C. D. hereinafter contained, he the said A. B. has placed and bound, and by these presents doth place and bind himself, the said A. B., to and with the said C. D., for the term of years, to be computed from the day of the date of these presents; and doth hereby, to and with the said C. D., covenant, promise, and declare, that he the said A. B., as a labourer, shall and will, during all and every part of the said term of years, truly and faithfully serve the said C. D., on plantation , according to the rules, regulations, and laws now or hereafter to be in force of and concerning coolie immigrant labourers in this colony; and the said C. D. doth hereby covenant, promise, and agree to and with the said A. B., that he, the said C. D., shall and will during the said term of years, or the continuance of these presents, find and provide the said A. B. with suitable and sufficient lodging and medical attendance, according to the laws in such case made and provided, and according to all other laws and ordinances which may hereafter be made, touching or concerning coolie immigrant labourers in this colony; and also shall and will allow and pay to the said , as such labourer aforesaid, the same rate of wages as is paid to the labourers not under a written agreement, working on said plantation, according to the quantity of work performed, and will pay such wages on the , after deducting at the rate of three dollars per annum for medical attendance, and at the rate of six dollars per annum for lodging.

A. B.
C. D.

The preceding agreement was signed by the above-named parties in my presence on the day and year above written, voluntarily, the same being, as far as I am able to judge, fully understood by them respectively.

, Agent-General of Immigration.

(B.)

I CERTIFY that the coolie immigrant (here insert the number, name, and particulars serving to identify the immigrant) is exempt from the payment of monthly sums (here state ground or cause of exemption, as "being an old coolie," or as "being exempted by his Excellency the Governor," or as "having completed his industrial residences," or any other lawful cause, stating such cause).

Appendix, No. 3.

BRITISH GUIANA.—No. 22.—1851.

(Court of Policy.)

Henry Barkly. AN ORDINANCE for the encouragement of the introduction into this Colony of Labourers in general.

Referred to at Page 8.

Ordinance enacted by his Excellency Henry Barkly, Esquire, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Colony of *British Guiana*, Vice-Admiral and Ordinary of the same, &c., &c., &c., by and with the advice and consent of the Honourable the Court of Policy of said Colony.

To all to whom these presents do, may, or shall come, greeting; be it known:—

WHEREAS it is expedient that provision should be made for the encouragement, under certain limitations, of the introduction into this colony of labourers on bounties to be paid by the colony:—

Preamble.

1. Be it therefore enacted, by his Excellency the Governor of the colony of British Guiana, with the advice and consent of the Court of Policy thereof, that the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Court of Policy, may, from time to time, by proclamation, name the ports or places from which emigration on bounty is permitted to this colony.

Governor to name ports of emigration.

2. And be it enacted, that the Governor, with such advice and consent as aforesaid, may fix such rate of bounty as to him shall seem just for indemnifying the person at whose charge any immigrant may be introduced into this colony for the expense of his maintenance and passage from the port of embarkation to this colony, and the Governor shall, in his proclamation to be issued for that purpose, declare the number of weeks deemed necessary for the voyage of any ship or vessel from such respective ports or places to this colony: provided always, that no rate of bounty shall be fixed, and that no bounty shall be allowed, for the importation of any immigrant other than those competent and willing to engage in agricultural occupations, or for any immigrant above the age of 40 years, or who shall be incapacitated for agricultural labour by infirmity or disease: provided always, that any member of a family of immigrants above the age of 40 years arriving here, may be admitted, and bounty paid for the same.

Governor to fix rate of bounty.

Payment of bounties.

3. And be it enacted, that if the agent-general of immigration, with the assistance of the health officer of the port in which any such immigrants shall arrive, on personal inspection of the vessel and immigrants, shall be satisfied that the provisions of Ordinance No. 20, of the year 1851, and also the provisions of the "Passengers' Act, 1849," in so far as such Act may apply, have been fully complied with, he shall transmit to the Governor a certificate in the form annexed, (A.), noting at the same time the date of the arrival in this colony of such immigrants, and the place from which, and the vessel in which such immigrants shall have arrived, and the sum of money payable in respect of such immigrants; and thereupon the Governor shall issue his warrant to the Colonial Receiver-general to pay bounties, under the provisions of this ordinance, in respect of the introduction of immigrants from any of such several places as shall have been named by the Governor, as hereinbefore directed.

What contracts shall not be valid unless entered into within the colony.

4. And be it enacted, that, unless by permission of Her Majesty's Government, previously had and obtained, no contract entered into by any employer with any immigrant from any part of India, or from any part of the African continent, or from the island of Madagascar, or from any other island adjacent to the coast of the African continent, and inhabited by the negro race, shall be valid, unless the same shall have been made within this colony.

Contracts made out of the colony to be binding.

5. And be it enacted, that all contracts made and entered into out of this colony with any Chinese immigrant for the performance of any labour or service in agriculture within this colony for a period not exceeding the term of five years, to be computed from the day of the landing of such immigrant in the colony, shall be valid and in force for the period therein mentioned: provided always, that no such contract shall be valid or in force unless the same shall be reduced to writing and be signed with the name, or in case of illiterate persons with the mark, of each of the contracting parties, in the presence of a notary public or British consul, nor unless such notary public or British consul shall subscribe the written contract in attestation of the fact that it was entered into by the parties voluntarily, and with a clear understanding of its meaning and effect.

Determination of contracts of service.

6. And be it enacted, that if any immigrant who may be introduced into this colony under a private contract for a term of not less than three years, and for whose introduction a portion of bounty may be demanded as hereinafter mentioned, shall be desirous of determining his contract of service on the expiration of the first or other current year, to be computed from the day of his landing in the colony, and shall give one calendar month's notice of his intention so to do, to his employer or the manager of the plantation on which he shall be employed, it shall be lawful for the agent-general of immigration, or the special justice of the district, on the application of such immigrant, and on proof being made of such notice having been given, to make order in writing for determining such contract from and after the day of the expiration of the then current year to be computed as aforesaid, and every such justice making any such order shall transmit a copy of the same to the agent-general of immigration.

Expense of introduction of immigrants to be made good from the funds of the colony in certain cases.

7. And be it enacted, that for every immigrant who shall so determine his contract of service as aforesaid, there shall be paid from the immigration fund, on the warrant of the Governor, to the employer or other person at whose expense such immigrant shall have been introduced, for each unexpired year of the term mentioned in the contract, if the immigrant shall have been introduced under contract for three years, a sum equal to one-third of the bounty mentioned in the Governor's proclamation as payable for the introduction of an immigrant from the place from which the immigrant determining his three years' contract shall have been introduced, and for each unexpired year of the term mentioned in the contract if the immigrant shall have been introduced under contract for five years, a sum equal to one-fifth of the bounty mentioned in the Governor's proclamation as payable for the introduction of an immigrant from the place from which the immigrant determining his five years' contract shall have been introduced.

Determination of contracts of service made in the colony.

8. And be it enacted, that if any immigrant who may be indentured in this colony shall be desirous of determining his contract of service on the expiration of the first or other current year, to be computed from the day of his being so indentured in the colony, and shall give one calendar month's notice of his intention so to do, to his employer or the manager of the plantation on which he shall be employed, it shall be lawful for the Agent-general of Immigration, or the special justice of the district, on the application of such immigrant, and on proof being made of such notice having been given, and of payment of the bounty money advanced for its introduction into the colony, and of contract money, hospital, and other reasonable expenses incurred on his behalf by his employer, to make order in writing for determining such contract from and after the day of the expiration of the year to be computed as aforesaid, and every such justice making any such order shall transmit a copy of the same to the Agent-general of Immigration.

Immigrants in this ordinance to be subject to Ordinance No. 20, of the year 1851.

9. And be it enacted, that every immigrant mentioned in this ordinance, in all matters not otherwise specially provided for by this ordinance, shall be subject to and governed by the provisions of Ordinance No. 20, of the year 1851.

Interpretation clause.

10. And be it enacted, that within the meaning and for the purposes of this ordinance, the words "Her Majesty," shall mean Her Majesty, her heirs, and successors; the word "Governor," shall mean every person who, for the time being, shall be in the lawful administration of the government of this colony; the terms "Agent-general of Immigration," and "agent-general," shall not only mean the Agent-general of Immigration, but also any sub-agent appointed by the Governor to act in any particular case, or on any particular occasion, in the place and stead of the Agent-general of Immigration; that the words indenture, contract, and agreement, respectively, shall mean any instrument in writing or print, or partly in writing and partly in print, evidencing and undertaking or promise of service; that every word importing the singular number only shall extend and be applied to several persons, matters, or things, as well as to one person, matter, or thing; every word importing the plural number, shall extend and be applied to one person, matter, or thing, as well as to several persons, matters, or things; every word importing the masculine gender only shall extend and be applied to a female as well as to a male, unless in any of the cases aforesaid it be otherwise specially provided, or there be something in the subject or context repugnant to such construction.

11. And be it enacted, that this ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after the 1st day of February 1852, and that upon the taking effect of this ordinance, Ordinance No. 23 of the year 1850, shall be and the same is hereby repealed, save and except in so far as Ordinance No. 23 of the year 1850 may repeal any other ordinance wholly or in part, and except as to existing contracts, and all fines and penalties incurred, and the right of proceeding and recovering the same.

And that no ignorance may be pretended of this our ordinance, these presents shall be printed and published in the customary manner.

This done and enacted at our adjourned Assembly, held at the Guiana Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara, this 14th day of October 1851, and published on the

By command, *Henry Barkly.*

J. Gardiner Austin,
Acting Secretary.

(A).

IMMIGRATION Agent's Certificate of Arrival.

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that the ship (master) arrived at this port from on the , bringing immigrants above 14 years of age, between the ages of 14 and 6 years, and under 6 years of age; that I, assisted by the health officer of the port, have personally inspected the said vessel and immigrants, and find that the provisions of the Passengers' Act, 1849, so far as such Act applies to said vessel, and also of the immigration ordinances of British Guiana, have been duly complied with; and finally, that the amount payable in respect of such immigrants is dollars.

Dated at this day of 185 .

A. B., Agent-general of Immigration.

J. Gardiner Austin,
Acting Secretary.

Appendix, No. 4.

BRITISH GUIANA.—No. 2.—1853.

(Court of Policy.)

Henry Barkly. AN ORDINANCE for regulating the Rights, Duties, and Relations of Employers and Servants in the Colony of *British Guiana*.

Referred to at p. 25. 115.

Ordinance enacted by his Excellency Henry Barkly, Esquire, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Colony of *British Guiana*, Vice-Admiral and Ordinary of the same, &c., &c., &c., by and with the advice and consent of the Honourable the Court of Policy of said Colony.

To all whom these presents do, may, or shall come, greeting; be it known:—

Preamble.

WHEREAS it is expedient that the hirings of servants in husbandry, of sailors and boatmen employed on board colonial vessels and boats, of menial servants, and of artificers, handicraftsmen, and labourers, whether immigrants or otherwise, should be properly regulated; and that provision should be made for the more easy recovery of the wages of such persons as aforesaid, and for the more ready determination of all disputes connected with their hirings: Be it, therefore, enacted by his Excellency the Governor of British Guiana, with the advice and consent of the Court of Policy thereof, as follows:—

Repeal of former laws.

Sec. 1. That from and after the taking effect of this ordinance, Ordinance No. 2, of the year 1848, intituled, "An Ordinance for regulating the Rights, Duties, and Relations of Employers and Servants in the Colony of British Guiana," and all laws formerly in force respecting the hiring of servants in husbandry, of sailors and boatmen employed on board colonial vessels and boats, of menial servants, and of artificers, handicraftsmen, and other labourers in the colony, shall be, and the same are hereby repealed, except only in so far as the same may have repealed any former law, or such parts of the said ordinance as relate to contracts made in certain places out of the limits of the said colony: Provided that nothing herein contained shall repeal or affect the Act No. 9, of the year 1827, intituled, "An Act to regulate Porters and others plying for hire in Georgetown," and which Act, No. 9, of the year 1827, shall remain in full force as if this ordinance had not been passed.

Proviso.

Penalty on servants for breach of contract.

2. That if any person described in the preamble to this ordinance shall contract with any employer to serve him for a time certain, or in any other manner whatsoever, and shall not enter into or commence his service according to such contract, such contract being either in writing, and signed by the contracting parties, or verbal, and made in the presence of two credible witnesses; or having entered into such service in pursuance of or under any contract, whether the same shall be in writing, or not in writing, shall absent himself from his service, or shall refuse to fulfil the same before the term of his contract shall have been completed, whether such contract shall be for a time certain, or work certain, or under the provisions hereinafter in that behalf contained, unless for some reasonable cause as hereinafter provided, or shall practise or be guilty of any fraud or deception in the performance of any work which he is bound to perform, such offender, on conviction thereof, shall be punished by fine or imprisonment, such fine not to exceed 24 dollars, and such imprisonment not to exceed 30 days.

Penalty on servants for damaging property, &c.

3. That if any such person as aforesaid shall, by negligence or other improper conduct, lose, throw away, endanger, or damage the property of his employer, or shall endanger such property by a careless or improper use of fire, or shall wilfully maim, wound, or cruelly ill-use any cattle or other live stock belonging to his employer, or entrusted to his care, or by negligence shall suffer or occasion to be maimed, wounded, or cruelly ill-used any such cattle or live stock, every such offender, on conviction thereof, shall be punished by fine or imprisonment, such fine not to exceed 24 dollars, and such imprisonment not to exceed 30 days.

 4. That

Penalty on persons for other wilful misconduct.

4. That if any person as aforesaid shall be guilty of any other wilful misconduct or ill-behaviour in such service, such person on conviction thereof shall forfeit and pay any sum not exceeding 10 dollars.

Wages of servants may be abated.

5. That the justice by and before whom any complaint shall be heard and determined, may, in addition to any of such fines or imprisonment hereinbefore directed, abate the whole or any part of the wages due to such person as aforesaid, and direct the same to be retained by and to the use of the employer of any such person; and in the event of any person being sentenced to imprisonment, no wages shall accrue to him during such imprisonment.

Penalty for ill-usage of servant by employer.

6. That if any employer shall ill-use any person, or shall not deliver to any person any articles stipulated for, and which by the contract of service are to be furnished by the employer to the servant, or if the articles so furnished shall not be of the stipulated quantity or quality, every such employer being convicted of any such offence shall forfeit and pay such sum not exceeding 50 dollars, including the reasonable costs of such servant, as to the convicting justices shall seem fit.

Contracts for service to be deemed monthly contracts.

7. That in the absence of any express agreement between the parties thereto to the contrary, the entering of any person into the service or employ of any one, shall be deemed and taken to be a contract for one month certain from the time of entering on such service, such month to be deemed a lunar month in the case of agricultural labourers, and a calendar month in all other cases, and every such contract shall be terminated by mutual consent of the parties, or by either party, at the expiration of the first or any subsequent month on giving 14 days' previous notice to the other party in writing, or in the presence of a credible witness, or for any good and sufficient cause as hereinafter provided.

Penalty on employer wrongfully terminating any contract for service for time uncertain.

8. That if any employer shall terminate any contract entered into with any servant for service for a time uncertain, except with the consent of such servant, or by giving 14 days' notice as aforesaid, or for some good and sufficient cause as aforesaid, such employer shall forfeit and pay to the use of the servant a sum equal to one month's wages, according to the rate of wages which may have been fixed by and between the parties; or if the rate of wages shall not have been so fixed, then such sum as the justice or justices may consider fair and reasonable, as and for a month's wages, regard being had to the class of the servant, and the nature of the duties contracted to be performed, in addition to the wages due to the servant at the time of the termination of such contract.

Penalty on employer wrongfully terminating any contract for a time certain.

9. That if any employer having engaged any servant for service for any period of time certain, or for the performance of any particular work, shall put away, dismiss, or discharge such servant before the completion of his contract, such employer, unless he shall be able to prove reasonable and sufficient cause for putting away such servant, shall forfeit to the use of such servant such sum not exceeding 24 dollars, as the justices shall consider a reasonable compensation for the wrong and injury done to such servant.

Penalty on labourer for delaying to complete a job where work has been commenced.

10. That whenever any labourer or servant, or other person having entered into a contract in writing or otherwise, for the performance of any job or work, for the performance of which no specified time shall be agreed upon, and having commenced the same, shall suspend his labour on the same, or shall by his example or persuasion, advise, or otherwise induce any person working with him to suspend his labour on the same, every such labourer, servant, or other person shall for every such offence, on conviction thereof, forfeit and pay to the employer a sum not exceeding 50 dollars, and shall moreover forfeit and lose to such employer every sum of money which would otherwise have been due and payable for such part or portion of the job or work which shall have been done and performed.

Employer may discharge servant for misconduct.

11. That it shall be lawful for any employer to discharge any servant who shall be guilty of any misconduct or wilful omission, or neglect of duty, without notice, and without payment of any wages beyond the wages due at the period of such discharge; and to any complaint made in respect of such discharge, such misconduct or wilful omission or neglect of duty proved shall be a sufficient answer; but such employer shall not be precluded by the fact of such discharge from proceeding against any such person as aforesaid for any offence under the provisions of this ordinance committed during the service of such person.

Ill-usage of servant a good answer to complaint by employer.

12. That on any complaint made by any employer against any servant for refusing or wilfully neglecting to perform his contract, such servant shall be at liberty to show by evidence, in answer to such complaint, that he terminated his service or contract in consequence of ill-usage by his employer, or for some other good and sufficient cause to be judged of by the justice or justices.

Justices may discharge employer or servant from his contract.

13. That upon any complaint made by any employer or servant, the justice or justices by whom such complaint shall be heard, may discharge such employer or servant from his contract or service, in addition to any other order made on such complaint, and shall, in case of such discharge, award to such servant the whole or such proportion of the wages appearing due to such servant as the justice or justices shall think reasonable, or shall authorise the employer to retain the whole or any specified portion of such wages, and shall give to such employer or servant, as the case may require, a certificate of such discharge and of such award, without any fee or consideration.

Governor may discharge immigrants

14. That if it shall be made to appear to the Governor, that any employer of any indentured immigrant, or other person acting under his authority, shall have been convicted of gross-

gross or repeated ill-usage or ill-treatment of any such immigrant, the Governor may direct the immigrant so ill-used or ill-treated, and also if he shall so think fit, every other immigrant indentured to such employer to be released and discharged from all further service to such employer, and thereupon such immigrant or immigrants shall be wholly discharged from all further service to such employer; and the Governor shall direct the Agent-general of Immigration to indent immigrants so discharged to such other employer as to him may seem fit; provided always, that the term of service for which every such immigrant shall be indentured by any such new indenture shall not, together with the time of his or her past service, exceed the period of service for which such immigrant was originally bound.

from service on account of ill-usage by employer.

15. That whenever the use and occupation of any house, cottage, tenement, or room, shall form an ingredient in any contract of service with any labourer other than an immigrant labourer under contract, or shall be stipulated for, or deemed a part of the consideration for any work or labour to be performed on any plantation by any such labourer, it shall be lawful for the employer to demand from, and, if need be, to enforce, under the authority of any justice of the peace, by deduction of wages due or otherwise, payment by every such labourer or servant for each day that such labourer or servant, without reasonable cause, shall have absented himself from the service of his employer, and shall have kept possession of said house, cottage, tenement, or room, such sum as shall have been stipulated as the value, not exceeding 16 cents per diem.

Employer allowed to charge and recover rent in certain cases from labourers.

16. That after such application to such justice of the peace as aforesaid, the occupancy of any person or persons hereinbefore mentioned shall cease and determine upon three clear days' notice to quit being given by the proprietor or proprietors of such tenement or premises, or by any person by him or them duly authorized thereto; and in the event of any person or persons over-holding possession of the said tenement or premises after expiration of such notice, it shall be lawful for any justice, and he is hereby authorized and required, upon complaint made, and proof thereof given, to issue his warrant directing any police officer or constable of the district in which such tenement or premises may be situate, to enter and take possession of the same, and to eject any person therefrom: provided always, that in the event of any person or persons proceeding to recover possession of such tenements or premises as aforesaid, otherwise than in the mode and manner pointed out by this ordinance, they shall be subject and liable, upon complaint made, to the payment of a fine not exceeding 24 dollars.

Labourer retaining possession of tenement after three days' notice to quit being given may be ejected.

17. That whenever any employer shall grant to any servant the use and occupation of any piece of land for the growth of provisions, such permission to be valid shall be in writing, and unless such permission in writing shall contain a stipulation that the employer shall be at liberty to determine the grant at any time, and to resume possession of the land without the servant being entitled to the growing crops, every servant to whom there shall be granted the use and occupation of any land in the manner and for the purpose aforesaid, shall, at any hour between six o'clock of the morning, and four o'clock of the afternoon of every day, within three months after his quitting or ceasing to be in such service, have the right of entering upon and reaping the growing crops on said land.

When servants entitled to growing crops on provision grounds.

18. That every person who shall harbour, conceal, or employ any immigrant, being at the time under a written contract to labour for any other employer, or who shall remove or entice away, or shall solicit or entice any such immigrant to remove from the employment or service of his or her employer, shall, for every such offence, on conviction thereof before a justice of the peace, forfeit and pay the sum of 23 dollars, and shall further pay to the employer to whom such immigrant shall be under such written contract to labour, the sum of one dollar for each day during which such immigrant shall have been so harboured or employed, and if the employer or person in charge of any such immigrant shall prove upon oath before any justice of the peace, a reasonable cause to suspect that such immigrant is harboured, concealed, or employed on the premises of any person, such justice of the peace may grant a warrant to search for such immigrant, and bring him or her, and the person by whom such immigrant may be harboured, concealed, or employed, before him, to be dealt with as aforesaid: Provided always, that in every case in which any dispute or difference shall arise as to whether any person who shall have harboured, concealed, or employed any immigrant, being at the time under a written contract to labour, or who shall have removed or enticed away, or shall have solicited or enticed any such immigrant to remove from the employment or service of his or her employer, had knowledge of any such immigrant being at the time under such contract, the proof of the absence or want of knowledge of every such person shall be on such person, and the proof of the knowledge of such person shall not be on the party aggrieved, complaining, or informing.

Penalty on persons harbouring, concealing, employing, or enticing away immigrants.

Proviso.

Onus probandi on party complained against.

19. That all complaints, differences, and disputes which shall arise between employer and servant, touching and concerning any matter or thing, shall and may be heard and determined in manner and form provided by Ordinance No. 30, of the year 1850.

Complaints, how to be heard and determined.

20. That within the meaning and for the purposes of this ordinance, all masters, mistresses, foremen, attornies, agents, managers, and other persons engaged in the hiring, employing, or superintending the labour or service of any servant within the meaning of this ordinance, shall be, and be deemed, "employers;" and that within the meaning and for the purposes of this ordinance, any money or other thing paid or contracted to be paid delivered, or given as a recompense, reward, or remuneration for any labour or other service done or to be done, whether within a certain time or to a certain amount, or for a time or an

Construction clause.

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amount uncertain, shall be deemed and taken to be the "wages" of any servant aforesaid; and that within the meaning and for the purposes aforesaid, any agreement, understanding, or arrangement whatever on the subject of wages, whether written or oral, whether direct or indirect, to which any employer and any servant or other persons are parties, or are assenting, or by which they are mutually bound to each other, shall be, and be deemed to be a "contract," and every contract shall mean an indenture; and that within the meaning, and for the purposes aforesaid, every labourer, whether immigrant or otherwise, or mechanic employed upon any sugar, coffee, or other plantation, shall be, and be deemed to be a "servant in husbandry;" and that within the meaning and for the purposes aforesaid, all servants in husbandry, mechanics, artificers, handicraftsmen, labourers, persons employed in droghers, vessels, or boats, or otherwise, and all household or other domestic servants, laundresses, or other servants, shall be deemed to be comprised within the term "servant;" that the word "defendant" shall also mean "offender," and the word "offender" shall also mean "defendant;" that the word "immigrant" shall mean any and every person introduced into the colony, either wholly or in part, at the public expense, or at that of any employer; that the word "indenture" shall mean any contract in writing, and the word "unindentured" shall mean "not bound by any contract in writing;" and that wherever in this ordinance any term importing the singular number occurs the plural number shall be deemed included, or where any term shall be used which signifies the male gender, the female gender shall be considered and taken to be included; and that where one matter or subject may be treated of, two or more matters or subjects shall be considered and included and intended, provided it shall be necessary to put such a construction in order to render the sense clear, or to give full and complete effect to any of the provisions of this ordinance, unless it be otherwise especially provided for, or there be something in the subject or context repugnant to such construction.

Ordinance, when to take effect.

21. That this ordinance shall come into operation and take effect on the day of the publication thereof.

Thus done and enacted at our Adjourned Assembly, held at the Guiana Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerary, this 20th day of January, 1853, and published on the 22d following.

Henry Barkly.

By command of the Court,
William Walker, Secretary.

(True copy.)
(signed) *W. Walker*, Secretary.

Appendix, No. 5.

No. 3.—British Guiana.—1853.
(Court of Policy.)

Referred to at p. 25. 115.

Henry Barkly.

An ORDINANCE* to repeal certain Ordinances now in force for the Regulation and Encouragement of Immigration into this Colony, and to make other Provisions in lieu thereof.

Ordinance enacted by his Excellency Henry Barkly, Esq., Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Colony of *British Guiana*, Vice-Admiral and Ordinary of the same, &c. &c. &c., by and with the advice and consent of the Honourable the Court of Policy of said Colony.

To all to whom these presents do, may, or shall come, greeting; be it known:—

Preamble.

Whereas it is necessary to amend the ordinances now force for the regulation and encouragement of immigration into British Guiana, and for providing general regulations for immigrants introduced into the said colony, and for that purpose to consolidate the same into one ordinance; Be it therefore enacted by his Excellency the Governor of British Guiana, with the advice and consent of the Court of Policy thereof, as follows:—

Governor to appoint Immigration Agent-general.

1. That the Governor may from time to time, in the event of a vacancy in the office of Immigration Agent-general, nominate and appoint some fit and proper person, resident in this colony, to fill such vacancy, who shall be paid annually such salary, not exceeding the sum of 2,400 dollars, as the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Court of Policy, shall determine.

Governor to appoint sub-agent, one for Georgetown and one for New Amsterdam.

2. That the Governor, with the advice and consent as aforesaid, may nominate and appoint from time to time sub-immigration agents residing within the colony, who shall be under the direction and control of the said Immigration Agent-general; and the Governor may allow to the sub-immigration agent acting in Georgetown remuneration not exceeding the sum of 960 dollars per annum; and to the sub-immigration agent acting in New Amsterdam remuneration not exceeding the sum of 480 dollars per annum.

3. That

* *See* Despatch from Duke of Newcastle, No. 48, 14 May 1853, conveying Her Majesty's disallowance of this ordinance, page 115 of this Paper.

Governor by Proclamation to name ports or places from which emigration on bounty will be permitted.

3. That the Governor, with the advice and consent as aforesaid, may from time to time by proclamation name the ports or places from which emigration on bounty is permitted to this colony.

Rate of bounty to be fixed by the Governor and Court of Policy, and the Governor to declare the number of days necessary for each. No bounty to be allowed to other than agricultural labourers, or for any immigrant over the age of 40, except in the case of families.

4. That the Governor, with the advice and consent as aforesaid, may fix such rate of bounty as to him shall seem just for indemnifying the person at whose charge any immigrant may be introduced into this colony for the expense of his maintenance and passage from the port of embarkation to this colony, and the Governor shall in his proclamation to be issued for that purpose declare the number of weeks deemed necessary for the voyage of any ship or vessel from such respective ports or places to this colony: provided always, that no rate of bounty shall be fixed, and that no bounty shall be allowed for the importation of any immigrant who may be incompetent or unwilling to engage in agricultural labour, or for any immigrant above the age of 40 years, unless in either case such immigrant shall be one of a family of immigrants arriving in the same vessel.

Bounty on Immigrants introduced at private cost.

5. That any person who shall introduce at his own expense such immigrants under written contract with him for service upon his own plantation, shall be entitled to receive from the immigration funds one-half of the rate of bounty which may be offered by any proclamation of the Governor then in force for the introduction of immigrants from the same port or place on the general account of the colony; or in the event of no such bounty being then offered, he shall be in like manner entitled to receive one-half of the amount of passage-money paid for each such immigrant, such amount to be ascertained by production of the charter-party of the vessel bringing such immigrants; and such importation being from such ports or places as are recognized, and under such regulations and conditions as are provided in this ordinance, so far as the same may apply.

Remuneration to agents abroad; how provided.

6. That the Governor may from time to time pay a proportion of the salary or remuneration granted by Her Majesty to each of such persons as are or may be appointed at places from which emigration may be sanctioned to superintend the emigration of labourers to any of Her Majesty's colonies in the West Indies and to British Guiana; every such salary or remuneration to be borne by the respective colonies in the proportions in which emigrants may be sent to them respectively.

Immigrants must be agricultural labourers, and in good health.

7. That every agent employed to collect emigrants shall use all just and lawful means to procure persons who are agricultural labourers willing to emigrate to this colony with their wives and children, if any, and shall explain to every such emigrant the real advantages likly to be derived by him from a removal to this colony, and such agent shall also ascertain that every such emigrant is an agricultural labourer in good health, and not incapacitated for agricultural labour by old age, infirmity, or disease.

What expenses collecting agents may incur, and how paid.

8. That every moderate and necessary expense incurred at any port or place where any such agent is appointed for the collection of emigrants, in conveying emigrants to the port of embarkation, in maintaining them there for a period not exceeding 15 days, and in providing them with such supply of clothing as may be requisite for their voyage to this colony, shall be defrayed by such agent, who shall transmit to the Governor of this colony an account thereof, duly vouched, showing the particulars of such expenditure, countersigned by the Governor of such place, or by such officer as he may appoint, if the same be a British possession, or by Her Majesty's consul at any foreign port or place, such Governor, officer, or consul (as the case may be), certifying thereby, so far as he knows, that such expenditure has been solely incurred for the purposes aforesaid, or for any of such purposes, and is just and reasonable; and the Governor of this colony, upon such certificate or upon such other evidence as he may deem requisite, shall issue his warrant to the Colonial Receiver-general to pay the amount of such account.

Agent to see that the provisions of the Passengers' Act have been complied with, and shall make list in duplicate, specifying the name, &c., of the immigrants. Master to deliver such duplicate list to the Immigration Agent-general.

9. That upon a vessel with emigrants sailing from any port or place from which emigration is permitted, the agent appointed for any such port or place shall see that all the directions herein contained, and all the provisions of the Act of Parliament passed in the session holden in the 15th and 16th years of Her Majesty's reign, chap. 44, intituled, "An Act to amend and consolidate the laws relating to the carriage of Passengers by Sea," and known as the "Passengers' Act, 1852," so far as the same may be applicable, have been complied with, and shall grant a certificate thereof in the form annexed, marked (A.), under his hand to the master of such vessel; and such agent, before such vessel is cleared out, shall make out a list in writing in the form annexed, marked (B.), or such other form as may be more convenient, together with a duplicate of the same, specifying as accurately as may be the name, sex, and age of each of the emigrants on board such vessel at her departure, and shall retain such list, and shall deliver to the master of the said vessel the duplicate of such list signed by such agent; and the said master shall on the arrival of such vessel, and previous to the disembarkation of any emigrant, give notice of the arrival of such vessel, and deliver the said duplicate of such list to the Immigration Agent-general of this colony.

Expenses how to be paid.

10. That all expenditure incurred by Her Majesty's Government or by Commissioners appointed by Her Majesty's Government at the request of the Governor and Court of Policy, the hiring, employing, and licensing of any vessel for bringing or sending immigrants into this colony from the East Indies or from China, in providing for the maintenance and clothing of such immigrants during their passage or otherwise, in employing on board any such vessel a surgeon, and such other just expenditure as shall be caused by and be neces-

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sarily incidental to such immigration to this colony, and all just expenditure caused by and necessarily incidental to sending back any immigrants from the East Indies at the expiration of their stipulated term of residence to the place from whence they shall have been brought or sent into this colony, shall be paid by the colony.

Permission of Government necessary to make certain contracts valid.

11. That unless by permission of Her Majesty's Government, previously had and obtained, no contract entered into by any employer with any immigrant from any part of India, or from any part of the African continent, or from the Island of Mandagascar, or from any island adjacent to the coast of the African continent, and inhabited by the negro race, shall be valid, unless the same shall have been made within this colony.

Contracts with Chinese to be valid for any period not exceeding five years.

12. That all contracts made and entered into out of this colony with any Chinese immigrant for the performance of any labour or service in agriculture within this colony for any period not exceeding the term of five years, to be computed from the day of the landing of such immigrant in the colony, shall be valid and in force for the period therein mentioned: Provided always, that no such contract shall be valid or in force unless the same shall be reduced to writing, and shall be signed with the name, or in case of illiterate persons, with the mark of each of the contracting parties, in the presence of a notary public, British consul, or other officer approved by Her Majesty's Government, nor unless such notary, British consul, or other officer approved by Her Majesty's Government shall subscribe the written contract in attestation of the fact that it was entered into by the parties voluntarily, and with a clear understanding of its meaning and effect.

Duties of Agent-general on arrival of ships with immigrants.

13. That upon the arrival in the colony of any vessel having immigrants on board, the Immigration Agent-general, accompanied by the health officer of the port, shall forthwith proceed on board of such vessel, and, with the assistance of such officer, shall ascertain, by personal inspection of the vessel and immigrants, whether the provisions of the colonial laws, and also the provisions of the "Passengers' Act, 1852," as far as they may be applicable, have been complied with or not; and such Immigration Agent-general, with such assistance as aforesaid, shall personally muster such immigrants, and compare the number and names of such immigrants with the duplicate list furnished to the master by the agent at the port of embarkation, and shall certify upon such duplicate list the name of the vessel, the total number of immigrants then living and on board of such vessel, together with the state or condition of each immigrant, his fitness for agricultural labour, and at whose cost and charges he is imported; and in case any immigrant shall have died during the passage, or the number or names of the immigrants shall differ from the number and names of the immigrants stated in such duplicate list, the Immigration Agent-general shall note such death or difference upon such duplicate list, and thereupon, with the approbation of the Governor, shall grant a licence for the disembarkation and landing of the immigrants from such vessel.

Immigration Agent-general to inspect vessel and immigrants, and see that the Passengers' Act has been complied with, and give certificate.

14. That if the Immigration Agent-general, with the assistance of the health officer of the port, on personal inspection of the vessel and immigrants, shall be satisfied that the provisions of the colonial laws, and also the provisions of the "Passengers' Act, 1852," in so far as they may apply, have been fully complied with, he shall transmit to the Governor a certificate in the form annexed, marked (C.), stating in the same the date of the arrival in this colony of such immigrants, and the place from whence, and the vessel in which such immigrants shall have arrived, and the sum of money payable in respect of such immigrants, and thereupon the Governor shall issue his warrant to the Receiver-general to pay the same: provided always, that no bounty or passage money shall be paid, except for such immigrants as are, upon their arrival, certified by the health officer to be in good health and fit for service; and that with respect to those who may be ineffective at the time of their arrival, payment of bounty or passage money shall be suspended, and shall be paid only upon such as may be, within a reasonable period, certified by the health officer or the surgeon of the colonial hospital to which they may have been sent, to have become capable of performing labour.

One immigrant for each ton of measurement of vessel.

15. That immigrants imported from the Island of Madeira, from any of the islands of the Azores, Cape de Verd Islands, Canary Islands, and other places of similar distance, may be so imported at the rate of one immigrant for each ton of the measurement of the vessel in which they are imported and no more, any provision in any law or ordinance to the contrary contained notwithstanding.

Conveying immigrants from Madeira, &c.

16. That upon the departure of any vessel from this colony having Indian immigrants on board returning to the port from whence they came, the Immigration Agent-general, accompanied by the health officer, shall proceed on board of such vessel, and with the assistance of such health officer, shall ascertain, by personal inspection of the vessel and immigrants, whether the vessel is fit and suitable in all respects for the purpose, and whether all the arrangements made for the passage and treatment of the immigrants are in due conformity with law, and especially with the provisions of an Act passed by the Right honourable the Governor-General of India and Council, intituled "An Act for regulating the Emigration of the Native Inhabitants of the Territories under the Government of the East India Company, to Jamaica, British Guiana, and Trinidad;" and such Immigration Agent-general, with such assistance as aforesaid, shall personally muster such immigrants and shall certify upon the list to be by him furnished to the master of such vessel, the total number of immigrants embarked, together with the state and condition of such immigrants, and that they have provided themselves with clothing suitable for the voyage.

Duties of health officer.

17. That

17. That such health officer, for his assistance and services as aforesaid, shall be allowed the sum of 10 cents of a dollar for every immigrant on board of any such vessel arriving, and the same sum for every immigrant departing at the expense of the colony. Fees of health officer.

18. That if any immigrants, shall not, on their arrival, be immediately provided with employment, it shall be the duty of the Immigration Agent-general to provide such immigrants with wholesome and sufficient food, and with convenient lodging on shore, until the means of earning their own subsistence can be procured for them; and the Immigration Agent-general shall deliver to the Governor an account, supported by all necessary vouchers, of the expenditure incurred by him in procuring such food and lodging, and if such account be approved of by the Governor, the same shall be paid by the Receiver-general. Immigration Agent-general to provide food for immigrants until they are located.

19. That the Immigration Agent-general shall continue to keep as heretofore separate registers of all immigrants introduced into this colony, that is to say, firstly, a register of immigrants from any of Her Majesty's possessions in the East Indies; secondly, a register of indentured Africans; thirdly, a register of Portuguese immigrants; fourthly, a register of Chinese immigrants; and, fifthly, a register of all other immigrants not coming under the denomination of any of the immigrants mentioned in any of the aforesaid classes, and shall in each of such registers insert the name of each immigrant thereto belonging, and shall number each of the immigrants of each class by a particular number, proceeding in regular order with the other numbers, so that no two immigrants of the same class shall bear the same number, and shall insert in each of such registers, under different heads, the number, name, age, and sex of every immigrant belonging to such class, the time when, the place from whence, and the name of the party, if any, at whose cost and charges such immigrant is imported, and the name of the vessel in which such immigrant shall have arrived, together with the cost of the passage of such immigrant, and also whether such immigrant will or will not be entitled to a return passage. Immigration Agent-general to keep separate registers of immigrants.

20. That it shall not be lawful for any immigrant who shall have been introduced into the colony at the public expense, to depart from the colony without a licence in writing signed by the Immigration Agent-general; and every master or other person in charge of any vessel who shall receive or harbour on board of such vessel, with the intention of carrying out of this colony, any such immigrant, who shall not have obtained such licence, shall, on conviction thereof, forfeit and pay a sum of 100 dollars, for each and every such immigrant whom he shall have so received or harboured with such intention as aforesaid; and every such penalty shall and may be sued for, prosecuted, and recovered for and on the behalf of Her Majesty by the Attorney-General, or in the Court of Vice-Admiralty, by Her Majesty's Advocate, from such master, or other person being in command of any such vessel, or from the owner of such vessel, or from the surety of the master of such vessel, or from any or either of them. Immigrant not to quit colony without a licence.

21. That the Comptroller of Customs and Navigation Laws shall be, and he is hereby authorized and required to withhold from the master or person in command of any such vessel a clearance for the same until such master or other person in command of such vessel as aforesaid shall produce to him a certificate from the Immigration Agent-general that the immigrants on board of such vessel have obtained from him, the said Immigration Agent-general, the licence in writing mentioned in and required by section 20 of this ordinance. Comptroller of Customs may withhold clearance of vessel.

22. That no employer who has already made application to the Immigration Agent-general in the mode and manner required by law previously to the passing of this ordinance for the purpose of obtaining allotments of immigrants, shall be required to make any other or renewed application until the expiration of the period hereinafter-mentioned in respect of such application, unless he shall have in the meantime received the full number of immigrants applied for as aforesaid: provided that in all other cases an employer who may be desirous of locating immigrants on his plantation, under the provisions of this ordinance, shall make application to the Immigration Agent-general, fully setting forth in writing, the situation of such plantation, the name of the proprietor thereof, the number and description of the immigrants required, the nature of the labour to be performed, and all other particulars; and such application shall not be received unless accompanied with a certificate of the special justice of the peace for the district where such immigrants are to be located, that comfortable and sufficient accommodation and medical attendance according to law, have been provided for such immigrants; and the Immigration Agent-general shall make and keep in his office a true and faithful register of all such applications and certificates, numbering them in the order in which they shall be respectively received (such numbering, however, not to give any right of preference to any person or plantation over any other person or plantation), and shall as soon as possible after the first day of January in each and every year publish in the "Official Gazette," and in some one other newspaper of the colony, a list of all such applications then remaining in force, and every such application shall remain good and valid for a period of two years from the date of its being sent in, unless the number of immigrants applied for shall be earlier allotted, or unless such application be withdrawn by the applicant or be rendered invalid by the death, insolvency or absence, unrepresented, of the proprietor of the plantation. Application for immigrants.

23. That the Immigration Agent-general shall, as soon as possible, after the 1st day of January in each and every year, publish in the "Official Gazette," and in some one other newspaper of the colony, a list in the form annexed marked (D.), or in such other form as Immigration Agent-general to publish lists.

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may be approved of by the Governor, of all vessels which have arrived in the colony with immigrants during the year preceding, the number of immigrants so arriving, and the distribution of such immigrants.

Location of Immigrants. Contract duty.

24. That on the arrival in this colony of any immigrants not already under a written contract with some individual, the Immigration Agent-general shall, with the approval of the Governor, proceed to locate them on such plantations as they may prefer, or if they do not desire to exercise any preference, shall locate them in such numbers and proportions as circumstances will admit of on those plantations for which applications for immigrants shall have been previously made; and that each employer before he shall become entitled to the services of such immigrants, shall enter into a contract with each immigrant, or with the Immigration Agent-general on his behalf, as the nature of the case may require, for a period of not less than 12 calendar months, which said contract shall be in triplicate, and shall be prepared by the sub-immigration agent in Georgetown, or in New Amsterdam, as the case may be; and for preparing which such sub-immigration agent shall be entitled to the sum of 24 cents, and no more, for each such contract in triplicate as aforesaid, to be paid by the person to whom the immigrants are to be allotted, and such person shall, upon the execution of such contracts, pay to the Receiver-general a duty of two dollars upon each of said contracts, and if the term of service expressed in such contract shall be for more years than one, shall further pay to the Receiver-general, at the commencement of each subsequent year of such term of service a sum of four dollars for each immigrant in service on his plantation under such written contract to labour on the 30th day of June or the 31st day of December immediately preceding, or such other sum or sums for the first and each subsequent year respectively, as shall be directed by the combined court at its financial session for the present year; and that the Receiver-general may be fully informed of the amount of contract duties payable, the Immigration Agent-general shall, whenever he allots immigrants, transmit forthwith to the Receiver-general a list of the estates to which such immigrants have been allotted, stating the number of immigrants allotted to each, the period for which contracts have been entered into, and the amount of contract duties becoming payable in respect thereof respectively: provided always, that in the case of children, for whose introduction only half the bounty payable for adults has been paid by the colony, only one-half the amount of contract duty payable for adults shall be demanded from the employer of such children.

Annual duties unpaid for three months to be recovered by the Receiver-general.

25. That all annual duties remaining due and unpaid for the space of three months after the commencement of the year for which such duties are payable, shall be charged with an addition of 10 per cent., which shall be recovered by the Receiver-general in the mode and manner hereinafter provided.

Returns of immigrants located to be sent to special justice.

26. That every employer of emigrants under a written contract to labour, or the manager or other person in charge of the plantation on which such immigrants were located, shall, on or before the 10th day of January and 10th day of July, in each and every year, make out and deliver to the special justice of the peace of the district, a return, in writing, of the number of immigrants who were in his service under written contract, on the last day of the preceding month, which return shall be made out in the manner and form specified in the schedule hereto annexed, marked (E.), and shall be described as the return of the person with whom such immigrant shall have been under a written contract, and shall contain a specification of the total number of immigrants so under written contracts, and of the time when, and of the numbers and names by which they shall have entered into such contract respectively, and also of all deductions from the original number of immigrants under written contracts as aforesaid, which shall have taken place within the last preceding six months by death or desertion; and also of the births of any children among such immigrants, specifying the ages and sexes of such children; and also a declaration that the contents of such return are in all respects true and correct; which return shall by such special justice be transmitted to the Immigration Agent-general; and any person who shall neglect to deliver to the special justice of the peace as aforesaid, within 14 days after the time specified, any such return as aforesaid, shall pay a sum of 10 dollars, and a like sum for each and every subsequent month during which such neglect shall continue, such sum to be recovered by the special justice in mode and manner provided by Ordinance 30, of the year 1850: provided always, that no person shall be compellable to appear before any special justice of the peace to declare to the truth of such return, but that any person making or signing any such return or declaration, knowing the same to be false, shall be liable to be punished as by law provided in the case of wilful and corrupt perjury.

Returns to be made by Immigration Agent-general.

27. That the Immigration Agent-general, on or before the 10th day of January and the 10th day of July in every year, shall make out a list of all employers liable for the payment of annual duties during the six months ending respectively on the 30th June and 31st December next ensuing, specifying the several periods at which such duties will become payable, the amount of such duties, the numbers, names, and descriptions of the immigrants in respect to whose contracts they are claimed, and the name of the plantation on which they are located; and the Immigration Agent-general shall forthwith transmit a copy of that part of such list which relates to each judicial district to the special justice thereof.

Duties of special justice with reference to returns.

28. That every special justice, on the receipt of such copy as aforesaid, shall compare the dates of such contracts, and the amount of duties, numbers, names, and descriptions of the immigrants stated therein, with the particulars stated in the returns mentioned in section 26

of

of this ordinance, and if there shall be no discrepancy between the two, shall certify the list to be correct, and shall forthwith return the same to the Immigration Agent-general; but if any discrepancy shall be found to exist, it shall be the duty of such special justice, within 10 days after the receipt of such list, to inquire into the origin of such discrepancy; to ascertain, by personal inspection, if necessary, the number of immigrants on any plantation, and to correct such list if he shall deem it right to do so, previous to returning it certified to the Immigration Agent-general.

Immigration Agent-General to forward corrected list to Receiver-general.

29. That the Immigration Agent-general, on the receipt of such certified list as aforesaid, after taking due notice in his registers of any corrections made therein as aforesaid, shall transmit the same within five days to the Receiver-general, who shall recover the amounts due from the parties upon whose plantations immigrants have been located: provided, that in the event of any such party neglecting or refusing to send in such returns as aforesaid, it shall be lawful for the Receiver-general to proceed, as hereinafter provided, for the recovery of the contract duties payable by such party, subject to the right of such party to establish by sufficient proof any deduction which he may claim to have made from the original number allotted, and that he shall be only compellable to pay for the balance remaining upon his plantation as hereinbefore provided.

Provision for return passage.

30. That from and after the taking effect of this section, every immigrant from any of Her Majesty's possessions in the East Indies, introduced at the expense of the colony, shall be exempt from liability to any deduction from the current rate of wages as payable to other labourers located and working upon the same estate, in respect of medical attendance or lodgings, and shall, moreover, be entitled, upon payment to the Receiver-general, at the expiration of each subsequent year of his term of service under indenture, of the sum of nine dollars, which the employer is now authorized by law to deduct for such medical attendance and lodging from all indentured labourers, or upon payment of an amount equal in the aggregate thereto, to be provided with a passage back to the port from whence he came, free of all charge whatsoever, and of all necessity of establishing, by other means, proof of industrial residence; but no such immigrant shall be entitled to claim such back passage unless he produce to the Immigration Agent-general the receipt of the Receiver-general for the amount payable by him in consideration of such back passage as hereinbefore provided: provided always, that every child, under the age of six years, at the date of arrival in the colony, or born in the colony, shall receive a free passage back with its parent or parents at the expense of the colony, on the expiration of their term of service, and that every child for whose introduction only half the bounty payable for adults has been paid by the colony shall be so provided with a passage upon payment of half the amount above mentioned: and provided further, that the Governor, upon the certificate of the Immigration Agent-general or of a special justice, may exempt, either wholly or in part, from such payments, any Indian immigrant incapacitated from labour by infirmity, accident, or other cause, and may, notwithstanding, grant to such immigrant a free passage back to India, and cause him to be provided with a proper supply of clothing for the voyage.

Indenture of immigrants.

31. That every immigrant from any of Her Majesty's possessions in the East Indies, shall, upon arrival, be indentured by the Immigration Agent-general in the form annexed, marked (F.), except as hereinbefore excepted, for a period of five years, or such other further term as Her Majesty's Government may see fit to authorize, but not exceeding 10 years in the whole; and in the event of such further term being so authorized, it shall be lawful for the Governor, by proclamation under his hand and seal, to declare and make known, that from and after some certain time to be therein specified, such further or extended term shall be the legal term of indenture of such immigrants, and shall be in all respects comprehended under the provisions of this ordinance as if it had been the original term of five years herein specified.

Payment by immigrant for return passage.

32. That in the event of the period or term of service under indenture of such immigrant being extended as aforesaid, the sum to be annually paid by him, in consideration of his being entitled to a back passage as hereinbefore provided, shall be proportioned to the entire sum, so as that in no case shall he be called upon to pay more than the sum of 45 dollars.

Immigrant accepting bonus to be re-indentured.

33. That every immigrant from any of Her Majesty's possessions in the East Indies, who has accepted or shall accept the bonus offered by the Court of Policy for postponing his right to a free back passage on the completion of his original term of service, shall be dealt with and considered in all respects as an immigrant newly imported, and shall, if not already under indenture, be indentured for five years, or for such shorter period as he shall have covenanted to remain, upon the conditions hereinbefore recited, and the party to whom he shall be so indentured, or by whom he may be employed, shall pay the contract duties prescribed in section 24 of this ordinance.

Plantation to have hospital and medical attendance.

34. That every estate on which such immigrants, whether indentured or not indentured, are located, shall be provided with a proper hospital and hospital furniture, medicine, and nurses, and shall have a regularly licensed medical practitioner to attend the sick, and in default thereof the proprietor of such estate shall be liable to a penalty of 25 dollars, and a like sum for each and every 14 days during which such default shall continue, such penalty to be recovered in the mode and manner provided by Ordinance 30, of the year 1850.

Chinese to be indentured.

35. That every Chinese immigrant, not already under written contract with some individual, shall, upon arrival in this colony, enter into a written contract, or shall be indentured by the Immigration Agent-general in the form annexed, marked (F.), for a period of five years from the date of his arrival.

Guarantee to be indorsed upon Chines indentures.

36. That in respect of all Chinese immigrants arriving in this colony, for whose introduction the full rate of bounty may be claimed, and who shall have entered into a contract previously to their embarkation, engaging to repay advances made to them by monthly deductions from their wages, it shall be lawful for the Governor to require any person to whom such immigrants shall be allotted to sign the following guarantee, to be endorsed upon such contract as aforesaid, namely:—

"This indenture having been assigned to me as proprietor or attorney of the proprietor of plantation , I engage to deduct the sum of dollars, in monthly instalments of from such amount of wages as A. B. may earn in my service, and to pay the amount monthly to the Immigration Agent-general, to be by him paid over to the agent of , and in the event of the death of A. B., or of his inability to earn wages, I hereby engage to establish the same to the satisfaction of the stipendiary magistrate."

And a copy of such guarantee, together with a descriptive list of the immigrants in respect to whom it has been given, shall be signed by the employer of such immigrants, and delivered to the agent of the importers: provided always, that no such guarantee shall be construed to bind the party signing it to deduct more than 12 dollars in the whole from the wages of any such immigrant, nor to make any deduction at all unless such immigrant shall continue in his service, and earn wages to a greater amount than one dollar per month.

Contracts of services for immigrants from Madeira, &c.

37. That every immigrant from the island of Madeira, from any of the islands of the Azores, Cape de Verd, or Canary Islands, shall, upon arrival in this colony, enter into a written contract, in the form annexed, marked (F.), for a period of three years from the date of his arrival, and that no bounty shall be paid upon the introduction of any such immigrant who shall not be so indentured as aforesaid: provided always, that this clause shall not operate nor take effect in the case of any such immigrant from the island of Madeira, from any of the islands of the Azores, Cape de Verd, or Canary Islands, who shall arrive in this colony at any time previously to the first day of May next ensuing.

African immigrant to be indentured on arrival if not already under contract.

38. That evey immigrant from any part of the African continent from which immigration shall have been, or may be hereafter, permitted by Her Majesty's Government, not already under written contract with some individual, shall, upon arrival in this colony, enter into a written contract, or shall be indentured by the Immigration Agent-general in the form annexed, marked (F.), for a period of three years from the date of his arrival.

Classification of liberated Africans.

39. That all liberated Africans who may be hereafter sent to British Guiana at the expense of Her Majesty's Treasury, shall be divided into two classes, the first class of whom shall comprise all those who, upon the inspection of the Immigration Agent-general, and the health officer, shall be considered to be above the age of 15 years; and the second class of whom shall comprise all those who, upon such inspection as aforesaid, shall be considered to be under the age of 15 years.

Indenture of liberated Africans.

40. That all liberated Africans of the first class, shall be indentured for three years, in the form annexed, marked (F.), and that all liberated Africans of the second class shall be indentured until they have attained the age of 18 years, in the form marked (G.), or in such other form as may be approved by the Governor.

Liberated Africans to have one afternoon of a week for religious instruction.

41. That all liberated Africans of the second class shall be allowed one afternoon in each week, to be appointed by the Governor, for the purpose of receiving education and religious instruction suited to their capacity, and that any manager or other person in charge of a plantation, preventing the attendance of any such African, at any school situated within two miles of such plantation, on such afternoon as aforesaid, or obstructing the minister of the parish, or any minister of the Christian religion, or any licensed schoolmaster, duly authorized thereto by the Governor, in visiting and instructing any such African, or neglecting or refusing to provide a fit and proper place, if required so to do, by the inspector of schools, for the communication of such instruction, shall forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding five dollars for each such offence, to be recovered upon the complaint of the inspector of schools, or any person acting under his authority: provided always, that any such African who shall absent himself from work on such afternoon as aforesaid, and shall neglect or refuse to attend school or to receive instruction therein, shall be liable to the same penalties as would be incurred by any labourer under indenture for a breach of contract.

Wages of indentured liberated Africans under 15 years of age, how to be dealt with.

42. That any balance of wages due by any employer to an indentured liberated African, under the age of 15 years, shall be paid monthly to the special justice of the district, if such justice shall see fit so to direct, and such justice shall transmit every such sum to the Receiver-general, making a return of the same to the Immigration Agent-general; and the Receiver-general shall then deposit the same into the Colonial Savings' Bank, there to remain at interest until the African to whom it belongs shall attain the age of 15 years, when the same shall be paid out to him by the Receiver-general.

Ticket of non-indenture.

43. That upon a certificate from a special justice, the Immigration Agent-general shall be bound to grant a ticket of non-indenture to every immigrant who shall have duly completed the

the term for which he was allowed to be indentured upon his arrival in the colony, or for which he covenanted to remain, on receiving a bonus, as mentioned in section 33, or who shall prove to the satisfaction of the Immigration Agent-general that he is not liable to any service under indenture; such ticket, if applied for within three months of the taking effect of this ordinance, or of the completion of his term of service, to be issued, free of all charge, but if obtained at a later period, then to be issued upon payment of 50 cents of a dollar.

Circumstances under which immigrant may be apprehended.

44. That it shall be lawful for any member of the police force to stop any immigrant whom he shall find in any public street, lane, or place within the city of Georgetown, or the town of New Amsterdam, on any day on which such immigrant shall be bound to labour, and if such immigrant shall not at once produce such ticket as aforesaid, to inquire whether such immigrant is or is not under indenture, and if the former, whether he have a written permission of absence, signed by his employer; and if the answers received to such questions shall not appear satisfactory, then to convey such immigrant before the special justice of the district, who shall either cause him to be detained until further inquiry can be made or commit him to gaol as a vagrant, for any period not exceeding 14 days.

Apprehension of immigrant under contract.

45. That it shall be lawful for the employer of any immigrant under a written contract to labour, for the servant of such employer, or for any member of the police force, or constable, to apprehend, without warrant, such immigrant, who, on any day on which he shall be bound to labour, shall be found at a distance of more than two miles from the estate on which he shall be engaged to labour, without a ticket-of-leave signed by such employer or his servant, and to cause such immigrant to be taken back to such estate.

How contract with immigrants may be put an end to.

46. That if any immigrant for whose introduction bounty shall have been paid, who may be indentured for longer than one year, shall be desirous of determining his contract of service on the expiration of the first or other current year, to be computed from the day of his arrival in the colony, and shall give one calendar month's notice of his intention so to do, to his employer or the manager of the plantation on which he shall be employed, it shall be lawful for the immigration Agent-general, or the special justice of the peace of the district on the application of such immigrant, and on proof being made of such notice having been given, and of payment to the Receiver-general of the bounty money advanced for his introduction into the colony, and of contract duties, and hospital, and other reasonable expenses incurred on his behalf by his employer, to make order in writing for determining such contract from and after the day of the expiration of the year to be computed as aforesaid, and every such justice making any such order shall transmit a copy of the same to the Immigration Agent-general.

Immigration Agent-general to inspect immigrants.

47. That it shall be lawful for the Immigration Agent-general to enter into and upon any plantation where any immigrant may be employed, and to inspect the state and condition of such immigrant, and inquire into any complaint which the employer may have against any such immigrant, or any such immigrant may have against his employer.

Penalty for obstructing Immigration Agent-general.

48. That every person who shall obstruct the Immigration Agent-general in entering upon any plantation where any immigrant shall be employed, or shall be by the Immigration Agent-general reasonably supposed to be employed, or who shall wilfully do any act whereby the Immigration Agent-general may be prevented or obstructed in inquiring into the state and condition of any immigrant, shall, on conviction thereof before any two or more justices of the peace, forfeit and pay such sum not exceeding 48 dollars for every such offence, as to the convicting justices shall seem fit.

Salaries and expenses how paid.

49. That all salaries of officers granted, and all expenses incurred in virtue of this ordinance, shall be paid out of such funds as are raised for the purposes of immigration; that all moneys payable by any person in virtue of any of the provisions of this ordinance, and which shall not be declared to be payable to any particular officer or person, shall be payable to the Receiver-general or to the special justice awarding the payment of any such money; that all sums received by the special justice, or any other person, and not payable over to any particular person, shall be paid over to the Receiver-general; that all moneys received by the Receiver-general under this ordinance, and every other ordinance relative to immigrants, not otherwise appropriated, shall be applied to immigration purposes; and that the Receiver-general shall render annually to the Governor and Court of Policy, combined with the financial representatives of the inhabitants of the colony, a statement of all receipts and payments for immigration purposes.

Recovery of money by Receiver-general.

50. That the Receiver-general shall enforce by parate or summary execution the payment of all sums of money payable to him under and by the virtue of this ordinance.

Provision for omissions from this ordinance.

51. That in all matters not otherwise specially provided for in this Ordinance, every immigrant shall be subject to and governed by the provisions of Ordinance No. 2 of the year 1853, intituled "An Ordinance for regulating the Rights, Duties, and Relations of Employers and Servants in the Colony of British Guiana."

Interpretation clause.

52. That throughout this ordinance the words and expressions hereinafter mentioned shall have and bear the following meanings, that is to say, the words "Her Majesty" shall mean her Majesty, her heirs and successors; the word "Governor" shall mean any person who, for the time being, shall be in the lawful administration of the Government of this colony; the word "Receiver-general" shall also mean Assistant Receiver-general; the term

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"Immigration Agent-general" shall not only mean the Immigration Agent-general, but also any sub-agent appointed by the Governor to act in any particular case, or on any particular occasion in the place and stead of the Immigration Agent-general; the word "immigrant" shall include all immigrants already introduced, or who may hereafter be introduced in this colony at the expense of the British Treasury, or at the expense of this colony, or for whose introduction, although the same may be under private contract, the colony may hereafter pay bounty; the word "writing" shall also mean printing; the word "servant" shall mean any person employed and duly authorized by the proprietor of any plantatation to which immigrants shall be allotted; the word "contract," and the words "written contract" shall mean also any indenture or agreement written or printed, or partly written and partly printed; the word "estate" shall also mean plantation; the word "plantation" shall include any sugar, cocoa, coffee, plantain, rice, or cotton estate, or any woodcutting establishment, or any cattle farm; the word "employer" shall include the proprietor, or manager, or other person having the direction of or the chief authority upon any such estate or plantation, or of or upon any cattle farm, or of or upon any woodcutting establishment, on which any immigrant shall be employed; every word importing the singular number only shall extend and be applied to several persons or things, as well as to one person or thing; every word importing the plural number shall extend and be applied to one person, matter, or thing, as well as to several persons, matters, or things; every word importing the masculine gender only shall extend and be applied to a female as well as to a male, unless in any of the cases aforesaid it be otherwise specially provided, or there be something in the subject or context repugnant to such construction.

Operation 30th section of this ordinance.

53. That the 30th section of this ordinance shall not come into force nor take effect until the 30th day of June next ensuing, but that all the other sections of this ordinance shall come into force and take effect on the publication thereof.

Repealing clause.

54. That when and so soon as this ordinance shall come into operation, as hereinbefore provided, Ordinance No. 22, of the year 1850, intituled "An Ordinance to provide for the subsistence, moral and religious instruction, and well-being of liberated Africans sent to British Guiana;" Ordinance No. 20, of the year 1851, intituled "An Ordinance to provide general regulations for Immigrants introduced, and to be introduced into the Colony of British Guiana;" Ordinance No. 21, of the year 1851, intituled "An Ordinance further to regulate and encourage the Immigration of Coolies;" and Ordinance No. 22, of the year 1851, intituled "An Ordinance for encouragement of the introduction into the Colony of Labourers in general,"—shall be, and the same are hereby repealed, save and except as to existing contracts and liabilities for payment of contract duty, and all fines and penalties incurred, and the right of proceeding for and recovering the same: provided always, that in the event of this ordinance not being confirmed by Her Majesty, the ordinances hereinbefore recited shall be and remain in as full force and effect as if this ordinance had not been passed.

And that no ignorance may be pretended of this our ordinance, these presents shall be printed and published in the customary manner.

Thus done and Enacted at our Ordinary Assembly, held at the Guiana Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerary, this 31st day of January, 1853, and Published on the 2d February following.

Henry Barkly.

By Command of the Court,
William Walker, Secretary.

(True copy.)

(signed) *W. Walker*, Secretary.

(A.)—Sect. 9.

Form of Clearing Certificate.

Clearing Certificate of the Emigration Agent at

Name of Ship.	Name of Master.	Tons per Register.	Aggregate Number of Superficial Feet in the several compartments set apart for Passengers.	Total Number of Statute Adults exclusive of Master, Crew, and Cabin Passengers the Ship can legally carry.	Sailing from.	Intending to touch at.	Bound to.

I, the

I, the undersigned do hereby certify that the foregoing appear to be the burthen and dimensions of the above-named vessel, and that, having regard as well to space as to tonnage, the greatest number of passengers she can carry by the Passengers' Act, 1852, is and I further certify, that to the best of my knowledge and belief she is in all respects seaworthy, and that the provisions, water, and stores actually laden on board have been duly surveyed, and are sufficient in quantity as well for the number of passengers now about to proceed in her, as for the crew, and that the same are of proper quality, and in good and sweet condition; and lastly, that all the directions contained in the Immigration Ordinance of British Guiana, and also in the Passengers' Act, 1852, so far as such Act applies to said vessel, for securing the health and safety of the passengers, have been duly complied with.

Dated at this day of 185

Emigration Agent for at

(B.)—SECT. 9.

Nominal List of Passengers Embarked on Board of

Port of Embarkation	Numbers of Passengers.	Occupation or calling.	Age.	Adults.			Children between 6 and 14 Years.			Children under Six years.			Port at which Passengers are to be Landed.
				M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	
				Total No. of Souls equal to Statute Adults.									

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that the above is a correct list of all the Passengers who embarked at dated at this day of 185

A. B., Emigration Agent for at

(C.)—SECT. 14.

IMMIGRATION Agent-General's Certificate of Arrival.

I, THE undersigned, do hereby certify that the ship (, master), arrived at this port from on the of , bringing immigrants above 14 years of age, between the ages of 14 and six years, and under six years of age; that I, assisted by the health officer of the port, have personally inspected the said vessel and immigrants, and find that the provisions of the Passengers' Act, 1852, and also of the colonial laws, so far as they apply to such vessel, have been duly complied with; and finally, that the amount payable in respect of such emigrants is dollars.

Dated at day of , 185 .

A. B., Immigration Agent-General.

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(D.)—SECT. 23.

ANNUAL LIST of Arrivals and Allotments of Immigrants.

Number of Arrival.	Name of Vessel.	Number of Immigrants.	From what Port or Place.	Adults.			Children between Six and Fourteen Years.			Children under Six Years.			Number of Immigrants allotted, including Children.		To what Plantation allotted.	Remarks.
				M.	F.	TOTAL.	M.	F.	TOTAL.	M.	F.	TOTAL.	M.	F.		

Dated at , this day of , 185

A. B., Immigration Agent-General.

N. B.—If any discrepancy exists between the number arrived and those allotted, explain it in the column for remarks.

(E.)—SECT. 26.

HALF-YEARLY RETURN of the Number of Immigrants under Contract, located on Plantation , in the Parish of , in the Colony of *British Guiana*.

Whence Emigrating.	Name of Ship.	Date of Contract or Indenture.	Remaining from last Return.				Births.			Deaths since last Return.					Number deserted since last Return.		Immigrants remaining.				
			Adults liable to Whole Duty.		Children liable to Half Duty.					Adults liable to Whole Duty.		Children liable to Half Duty.		TOTAL.			Adults. liable to Whole Duty.		Children liable to Half Duty.		TOTAL.
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	TOTAL.	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
		TOTAL																			

I, A. B., of , do solemnly and sincerely declare that the above is a true and correct return of the immigrants on plantation . on the day of , 185 , as required by the 26th section of Ordinance No. 3, of the year 1853.

A. B.

(F.)—Sects. 31, 35, 37, 38, 40.

(British Guiana.)

Be it remembered, that on this day of in the year of our Lord , of , and of , appeared before me, , Immigration Agent-general of the colony of British Guiana, and in my presence signed their names or marks (as the case may be) to the following contract of service:—

The said agrees to hire the services of the said , and the said agrees to render to the said services in the capacity of a , for the term of years, commencing on the day of , in the year , and terminating on the day of , in the year . And it is further agreed between the said parties, that the said shall be employed by the said on plantation . And it is further agreed that the said shall pay to the said as such labourer aforesaid, the same rate of wages as is paid to the labourers not under indenture or agreement working on said estate, according to the quantity of work performed, and that such wages shall be paid on the last day of , subject to deductions at the rate of three dollars per annum for medical attendance, and at the rate of six dollars per annum for lodging.

A. B.
C. D.

The preceding contract was signed by the above-named parties in my presence on the day and year above written, voluntarily, the same being, as far as I am able to judge, fully understood by them respectively.

(signed) *E. F.*,
Immigration Agent-General.

(G.)—Sect. 40.

(British Guiana.)

This Indenture, made the day of , in the year of our Lord One thousand Eight hundred and , between A. B., Immigration Agent-general in the colony of British Guiana, for and on behalf of C. D., a liberated (male or female) African) of the age of years, and numbered , recently sent to this colony under the authority of Her Majesty's Government, for the purpose of being located and established herein, of the one part, and E. F., of in this colony, of the other part,—Witnesseth, that in virtue of the ordinance in such case made and provided, and in consideration of the covenants, promises, and agreements on the part and behalf of the said E. F., hereinafter contained, he, the said A. B., as such Immigration Agent-general, has indented, placed, and bound, and by these presents doth indent, place, and bind the said C. D. (the African indented) to and with E. F., of to serve for the term of years, to be computed from the day of the date of these presents; and doth hereby, for and on behalf of the said C. D., to and with the said E. F., covenant, promise, and agree that he the said C. D. shall and will, during all and every part of the said term of years, truly and faithfully serve the said E. F., as a labourer on plantation ; and the said E. F. doth hereby covenant, promise, and agree to and with the said A. B., for and on behalf of the said C. D., that he, the said E. F., shall and will, until the said C. D. shall have attained the age of 15 years, find and provide the said C. D. with suitable and sufficient diet, clothing, tools, or implements of work, lodging, and medical attendance, in a like and equal manner with the rest of the Africans under the age of 15 years, indented in this colony; and according to the laws in such case made and provided, and according to all other ordinances and laws which may hereafter be made touching or concerning Africans under the age of 15 years, indented in this colony, and that he the said E. F., for and on account of the said C. D., until the said C. D., shall attain the said age of 15, shall and will keep, or cause to be kept, a regular account, in which the said C. D. shall be debited with the costs and charges of such diet, clothing, tools, or implements of work, at the same prices, paid for the same by the said E. F., with a sum for medical attendance and hospital diet, at the rate of three dollars per annum, and with a sum at the rate of six dollars per annum for lodging, and shall and will credit the said C. D. for all work by him or her done and performed, at the same rate of wages paid or payable to any other labourer on said plantation for the like work; and, moreover, that he the said E. F. shall and will, until the said C. D. shall attain the age of 15 years, at the beginning of each month, exhibit to the special justice of the district in which said plantation is situate, such account, and pay to said special justice whatever balance or sum may be then due on said account to the said C. D., and shall also allow to the said C. D., during the continuance of these presents, for education and religious instruction such one afternoon in every week as shall be appointed or assigned by the governor of

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the colony for the time being; and also shall and will, after the said C. D. shall have attained the age of 15 years, and until he shall have attained the age of 18 years, allow and pay to the said C. D. weekly, and every week for all work which the said C. D. shall do and perform, the same rate of wages paid or payable to any other labourer for the like work, after deducting the original costs of any tools or implements found and provided by the said E. F. for the said C. D., a sum for medical attendance and hospital diet at the rate of three dollars per annum, and a sum for lodging at the rate of six dollars per annum.

In witness whereof, he the said A. B., the Immigration Agent-general, for and on behalf of the said C. D., and hereunto set their hands the day and year first above written.

Appendix, No. 6.

BRITISH GUIANA.—No. 13.—1853.

(Court of Policy.)

W. Walker.

AN ORDINANCE to amend Ordinance No. 20, of the Year 1851, intituled "An Ordinance to provide General Regulations for Immigrants introduced and to be introduced into the Colony of *British Guiana*."

Ordinance, enacted by his Excellency William Walker, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Colony of *British Guiana*, Vice-Admiral and Ordinary of the same, &c., &c., &c., by and with the advice and consent of the Honourable the Court of Policy of said Colony.

To all to whom these presents do, may, or shall come, greeting; be it known:—

Preamble.

WHEREAS it is necessary to amend Ordinance No. 20, of the year 1851, intituled "An Ordinance to provide General Regulations for Immigrants introduced and to be introduced into the Colony of British Guiana," by repealing certain of its provisions and enacting others in lieu thereof: Be it therefore enacted by his Excellency the Lieutenant-governor of British Guiana, by and with the advice and consent of the Court of Policy thereof, as follows:—

Allotment and contract of immigrants.

1. That section 15 of the said Ordinance No. 20, of the year 1851, shall be and the same is hereby repealed, and instead of section 15 in the said ordinance the following shall be section 15, that is to say:—"15. That on the arrival in this colony of any immigrants not already under a written contract with some individual, and for the expenses of whose importation the colony shall be liable under and by virtue of any proclamation or otherwise, the Agent-general of Immigration shall proceed to allot them on such plantations as they may prefer, or if they do not desire to exercise any preference, shall allot them in such numbers and proportions as circumstances will admit of, to those plantations for which applications for immigrants shall have been previously made, and submitted to the Governor and been by him approved; and that after such allotments, each applicant, to whom immigrants shall have been allotted as aforesaid, before he shall become entitled to the services of such immigrants shall enter into a contract with each immigrant in the form annexed, marked (D.), or in such other form as may be approved by the Governor, for a period not less than 12 calendar months, and not exceeding three years, except in cases in which some other form, or some other period of service is specially provided, and shall pay to the Agent-general of Immigration a duty of two dollars upon each of said contracts, and if the term of service expressed in such contract shall be for more years than one, shall further pay to the Colonial Receiver-general, or Assistant Colonial Receiver-general, at the commencement of each subsequent year of such term of service, a sum of four dollars for each immigrant in service on his plantation under such written contract to labour, on the 30th day of June, or 31st day of December, immediately preceding; and in the event of any such annual duty being unpaid for one month after the commencement of the year for which it is payable, the operation of the contract between the employer and immigrant shall be suspended and in abeyance, in as far as the employer is concerned, until such annual duty be paid, except that the payment of such duty by such employer shall be enforced in manner and form hereinafter provided."

Immigrants not under contracts to labour, to pay monthly sums.

2. That section 16 of the said Ordinance No. 20, of the year 1851, shall be, and the same is hereby repealed, and instead of the said section 16, in the said ordinance, the following shall be the section 16, that is to say:—"16. That every immigrant introduced into this colony, at the public expense, after the taking effect of this ordinance, who being permitted by law to enter into a contract with any employer for three years or five years, shall not, during the said three years or five years, be in the service of some employer or other, under a written contract to labour on a plantation, for every month of said three years or five years, during which he shall not be under such contract, if he shall be an immigrant with whom it was permitted by law for an employer to have originally entered into a contract for three years,

years, shall pay in advance a monthly sum of one dollar, and if he shall be an immigrant with whom it was permitted by law for an employer to have originally entered into a contract for five years, shall pay in advance a monthly sum of one dollar and fifty cents; and all such sums shall be designated throughout this and every ordinance passed and to be passed relative to immigrants as 'monthly sums.'"

3. That this ordinance shall come into operation and take effect on and from the date of the publication thereof. When ordinance to take effect.

And that no ignorance may be pretended of this our ordinance, these presents shall be printed and published in the customary manner.

Thus Done and Enacted at our Adjourned Assembly, held at the Guiana Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara, this 23d day of June, 1853, and published on the 25th following.

William Walker.

By Command,
W. B. Wolseley, Acting Secretary.

(True copy.)

(signed) *W. B. Wolseley,*
Acting Secretary.

Appendix, No. 7.

TRINIDAD.—No. 3.—22 March 1853.

Harris.

AN ORDINANCE enacted by the Governor of the Island of *Trinidad*, by and with the advice and consent of the Council of Government thereof, for the better Government of Chinese Immigrants introduced at the public Expense.

Referred to at page 139.

WHEREAS certain Chinese labourers have been introduced into this colony at the public expense, and whereas it is expedient to make provision for the government of the same, and of all other Chinese labourers who may hereafter be introduced into this colony at the public expense; Be it enacted, by his Excellency the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Council of Government, that the Agent-general of Immigrants shall insert the names of all Chinese immigrants already introduced, or who may be hereafter introduced into this colony at the public expense, in the General Register of Immigrants, under a separate head, and shall number each of such immigrants by a particular number, commencing with the number one, and proceeding by regular numerical progression, and shall distinguish therein, under different heads, the number, name, age and sex of every such immigrant, and the time when, and the place from which, and the vessel in which such immigrant shall have arrived; and also the amount of the monies, if any, which may have been advanced to such immigrant previous to his embarkation, and which are to be repaid by such immigrant out of his wages, in this colony. Chinese immigrants to be registered.

2. And be it enacted, that it shall not be lawful for any Chinese immigrant already introduced, or who may be hereafter introduced into this colony at the public expense, to depart from this colony without a licence in writing, signed by the Agent-general of Immigrants, and every master or other person in charge of any vessel, who shall knowingly receive or harbour on board of such vessel, or agree to receive on board of such vessel, with the intention of carrying out of this colony any such Chinese immigrant whose name shall appear in such register, and who shall not have obtained such licence shall, on conviction thereof before a justice of the peace, forfeit and pay to Her Majesty the sum of 20 *l.* sterling for each and every such Chinese immigrant whom he shall have so received or harboured, or agreed to receive with such intention as aforesaid. Chinese immigrant not to leave the colony without a licence. Penalty.

3. And be it enacted, that no licence to leave this colony shall be delivered by the Agent-general of Immigrants to any such Chinese immigrant, until he shall have completed a residence of five years within this colony, unless the Governor shall make order in writing under his hand, for the return of any such Chinese immigrant to the place whence he may have come before the expiration of the said term of five years. No licence to be granted to Chinese immigrant except on completing a residence of five years.

4. And be it enacted, that every such Chinese immigrant who shall complete a residence of five years within this colony, on making the same to appear to the satisfaction of the Agent-general of Immigrants, shall be entitled to a certificate of residence under the hand of the Agent-general of Immigrants, which certificate shall be delivered, free of charge, to such immigrant. Certificate of residence.

5. And be it enacted, that it shall be lawful for the Agent-general of Immigrants to assign the services of any such Chinese immigrant already introduced, or who may hereafter be introduced into this colony at the public expense, to such person and in respect of such plantation as to the Governor may seem fit, for the space of five years, to be computed from the Assignment of services.

Appendix.

the day of the arrival of such Chinese immigrant in this colony, and every such assignment of services shall be according to the form (A.) in the schedule to this ordinance, and shall be signed by the Agent-general of Immigrants.

Duty on assignment of services.

6. And be it enacted, that upon every such assignment there shall be payable to Her Majesty, for every such Chinese immigrant whose services may be so assigned, the sum of 2*l.* for the first year, for which such services shall be assigned, which sum shall be paid to the Agent-general of Immigrants, at the time of the execution of such assignment, and the annual sum of 1*l.* for every subsequent year of such services, which annual sum shall be paid yearly in advance to the Agent-general of Immigrants by the person in possession of the plantation in respect of which such services shall have been so assigned.

Governor may determine assignment and transfer the same

7. And be it enacted, that it shall be lawful for the Governor in any case where he shall see fit, to determine such assignment, and to transfer the services of such Chinese immigrant to some other person, and in some respect of some other plantation for the residue yet unexpired, and to come of the said term of five years, and such transfer shall be in writing, signed by the Agent-general of Immigrants, and the person to whom such services shall be so transferred, shall be bound to pay to Her Majesty a proportionate part of the sum of 2*l.* for the proportion of the current year, which sum shall be paid to the Agent-general of Immigrants at the time of the execution of such transfer, and the annual sum of 1*l.* for every subsequent year of such services, which annual sum shall be paid yearly in advance to the Agent-general of Immigrants, and the person in favour of whom the prior assignment so determined shall have been made, shall forfeit all monies which he shall have paid in respect of such assignment.

Agent-general of Immigrants at request of Chinese immigrant may transfer assignment of services.

8. And be it enacted, that if after the expiration of the first or other current year after his arrival in this colony any such Chinese immigrant shall be desirous of having his services transferred to some other plantation than that in respect of which his services shall have been assigned, it shall be lawful for the Agent-general of Immigrants to make order in writing for determining the original assignment of the services of such immigrant, and to transfer the services of such immigrant for the residue of the said term of five years to such person and in respect of such plantation as such Chinese immigrant may select; which transfer may be according to the form (B.) in the schedule to this ordinance, and shall be signed by the Agent-general of Immigrants, and in every such case there shall be payable to Her Majesty by the person to whom such services may be so transferred the sum of 3*l.* for the first year for which such services shall be so transferred; which sum shall be paid to the Agent-general of Immigrants at the time of the execution of such transfer, and the annual sum of 1*l.* for every subsequent year of such services, which sum shall be paid yearly in advance to the Agent-general of Immigrants by the person in possession of the plantation to which such services shall have been so transferred.

Chinese immigrant to continue his services on any estate to which he may be assigned or transferred.

9. And be it enacted, that every Chinese immigrant whose services may be so assigned or transferred shall be bound to continue to work on the plantation in respect of which his services shall have been so assigned or transferred, notwithstanding that the person to whom his services may have been assigned or transferred shall die, or the plantation in respect of which such services shall have been assigned shall be sold or demised, and in every such case the right to the services of such Chinese immigrant during the residue of the said term of five years shall vest in the person or persons to whom such plantation shall be devised or descend or be sold or demised.

Allowances and wages.

10. And be it enacted, that every person in possession of the plantation in respect of which the services of any such Chinese immigrant may be so assigned or transferred shall be bound to provide proper and sufficient medical care, and proper and sufficient medicine and attendance, for such Chinese immigrant during the continuance of his services, and shall be bound to supply to every such Chinese immigrant during the first three months after his arrival in the colony such clothing and daily food as are specified in the schedule to this ordinance annexed; and at the end of the said term of three months, every such Chinese immigrant shall, in the absence of an express agreement to the contrary, be entitled, in lieu of such clothing and food, to wages at the rate of six dollars for every calendar month; provided always, that no deduction shall be made from such wages by reason of the sickness and inability to work of any such Chinese immigrant, unless such sickness and inability to work shall continue more than 15 days at any one time, in which case the right to such money wages shall cease during the further continuance of such sickness and inability.

Deduction of allowances.

11. And be it enacted, that the manager or other person in charge of the plantation in respect of which the services of any such Chinese immigrant shall be so assigned or transferred, shall be bound to deduct, by monthly instalments of one dollar each, from the wages of such Chinese immigrant, the amount mentioned in such assignment as advanced to such Chinese immigrant previous to his embarkation, and shall pay over the amount so deducted to the Agent-general of Immigrants, and the monies so paid over shall be paid by the Agent-general of Immigrants to the colonial treasurer for the benefit of the person by whom such amount shall have been advanced.

Duties on assignment or transfer to be a first charge on plantation.

12. And be it enacted, that all duties by this ordinance made payable to Her Majesty in respect of the services of any Chinese immigrant, whose services may be assigned or transferred under this ordinance, shall be a first charge on the plantation in respect of which uch services shall be so assigned or transferred.

Hours of labour.

13. And be it enacted, that every such Chinese immigrant whose services shall be so assigned or transferred, in the absence of an express agreement to the contrary between such Chinese and the person entitled to his services under such assignment or transfer, shall be bound to work upon or in the service of the plantation in respect of which his services shall be due, for nine hours of each day, Sundays, Good Friday, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day, only excepted.

Chinese immigrant may determine his services on certain conditions.

14. And be it enacted, that if any such Chinese immigrant shall be desirous of determining the assignment of his services on the expiration of the first or other current year after his arrival in this colony, it shall be lawful for the Agent-general of Immigrants, on the application of such Chinese immigrant, to make order in writing for the determination of such assignment of services at the expiration of the then current year, on the payment of a sum equal to 50 *s.* sterling for every year which may remain unexpired and to come of the said term of five years, and thereupon the Agent-general of Immigrants shall grant a certificate of discharge to such Chinese immigrant, which certificate shall be according to the form (C.) in the schedule to this ordinance.

Penalty on persons employing any Chinese immigrants under assignment.

15. And be it enacted, that if any person shall harbour or receive into his employment any Chinese immigrant to whose services any other person may be entitled under any assignment or transfer of services then unexpired and in force, every such person on conviction before a justice of the peace, on the complaint of the Agent-general of Immigrants, or of the person entitled to such services, or of the manager or other person in charge of the plantation in respect of which such services shall be due, and which complaint may be laid at any time within 12 calendar months next after any day on which such Chinese may be so employed, shall forfeit and pay to Her Majesty the sum of 10 *l.* sterling, and to the person entitled to such services under such assignment the sum of 8 *s.* for each day during which such Chinese immigrant shall be so harboured or employed.

Agent-general of Immigrants or police constable to stop any Chinese immigrant wherever he may find him, and demand certificate of residence or of discharge.

16. And be it enacted, that it shall be lawful for the Agent-general of Immigrants, or any police constable, to stop any Chinese immigrant, wherever he may find him; and also for the owner or occupier, or the servant of the owner or occupier, of any land or house, to stop any such Chinese immigrant found upon or about such land or house; and if such Chinese immigrant, being so required, shall fail to produce his certificate of residence, or a certificate of his discharge, or a written ticket-of-leave, signed by the manager or person in charge of the plantation in respect of which his services may be due, to take such Chinese immigrant forthwith before some neighbouring justice of the peace; and such justice shall forthwith inquire into the case, and, unless such Chinese immigrant shall make it appear to the satisfaction of such justice that he has completed such residence, or obtained such discharge, or that he is absent from the plantation in respect of which his services shall be due with the leave of the manager or other person in charge of such plantation, then and in such case such justice shall make order for the immediate committal of such Chinese immigrant to imprisonment with hard labour labour in the Royal Gaol for the term of 14 days.

Penalty.

Penalty on Chinese immigrant absent from work without excuse.

17. And be it enacted, that every Chinese immigrant, whose services shall be so assigned or transferred, who, during the continuance of such assignment or transfer, shall, without lawful excuse, absent himself from his work, shall forfeit his claim to all wages and allowances for the time during which he shall so absent himself, and, on conviction thereof before any justice of the peace, shall for every such offence be imprisoned in the Royal Gaol, with hard labour, for such term not exceeding 14 days, to be computed from the day of such Chinese immigrant being committed to such gaol as to the convicting justice shall seem fit.

Apprehension of vagrant Chinese immigrants.

18. And be it enacted, that it shall be lawful for any person entitled to the services of any Chinese immigrant, by virtue of an assignment or transfer of such services under this ordinance, or any servant of such person, or for any constable, to apprehend without warrant such Chinese immigrant being found at a distance of more than two miles from the plantation in respect of which his services shall be due without a written ticket-of-leave, signed by the manager or person in charge of such plantation, and to cause such Chinese immigrant to be taken back to such plantation.

Penalty on Chinese immigrant pretending to have completed a residence of five years or using as his own the certificate of residence or discharge of some other Chinese immigrant.

19. And be it enacted, that any Chinese immigrant who shall falsely and fraudulently pretend that he has completed a residence of five years within this colony, or who shall wilfully use as his own any certificate of residence or discharge which shall have been granted to any other Chinese immigrant, or who shall lend his certificate of residence or of discharge to any other Chinese immigrant, and any Chinese immigrant or other person who shall wilfully counterfeit or alter any such certificate, shall, on conviction thereof before any justice of the peace, be imprisoned, with hard labour, for such term not exceeding three calendar months as to the convicting justice shall seem fit.

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on 31 October, 2019

Monies to be paid over to the colonial treasurer.

20. And be it enacted, that the Agent-general of Immigrants shall pay over to the colonial treasurer all monies which may be received by such Agent-general under this ordinance, and all such monies shall be carried by the colonial treasurer to the account called the Immigration Fund.

Proof of the handwriting of Agent-general of Immigrants to be sufficient evidence.

21. And be it enacted, that proof of the handwriting of the Agent-general of Immigrants to any assignment or transfer of the services of any Chinese immigrant, or to any certificate or other document mentioned in this ordinance, shall be sufficient evidence of the execution of the same, and of the facts mentioned in such assignment, transfer, certificate, or other document.

Onus probandi.

22. And be it enacted, that where any question shall arise whether any Chinese immigrant has completed a residence of five years within this colony, the burthen of proof shall lie on the Chinese immigrant or other person alleging that such Chinese immigrant has completed such residence.

Passed in Council this 22d day of March, in the year of our Lord 1853.

Richard D. Cady,
Clerk of Council.

SCHEDULE (A.)

KNOW all men by these presents, that I, , Agent-general of Immigrants, by order of His Excellency the Governor, do assign the services of , a Chinese immigrant who arrived in this colony on the day of , in the ship , to , in respect of the plantation , in the ward of , for the space of five years, to be computed from the day of . The amount advanced to the said previous to his embarkation, and to be deducted from his wages is

(signed) *A. B.*, Agent-General of Immigrants.

(B.)

THESE are to certify that I, , Agent-general of Immigrants, at the request of the Chinese immigrant , who arrived in this colony on the day of , in the ship , and whose services were assigned to , in respect of plantation , in the ward of , for the space of five years, do transfer the services of the said to of in respect of the plantation for years, to be computed from the day of .

(signed) *A. B.*, Agent-General of Immigrants.

(C.)

I CERTIFY that the Chinese immigrant [insert name and number of immigrant] who arrived in this colony on the day of , in the ship , has paid to me the sum of , in consideration whereof I hereby order that the said be discharged from further service from the day of next.

(signed) *A. B.*, Agent-General of Immigrants.

Scale of Allowances and Wages for each Chinese Immigrant.

Money Wages.— Four dollars for each calendar month.

Food.—Eight ounces of beef or other meat, and one pound and a half of other alimentary food per diem.

Clothing.—One blanket and one flannel shirt.